GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

November 2010 Vol.XXIII, No. 5

KALKI GROUP HOUSE of QUALITY

Of all created things the loveliest
And most divine are children.
-William Canton

Cover Design: Jayaraj

CONTENTS

Editorial	2
Aathi(*Picture Story*)	8
Find the differeces	15
Picture Perfect	18
Hi Buddy!	20
Children's day	25
Mathzlle	29
Little Chef	32
Did you Know?	38
Viewpoint	42
Rhyme Time	46
Land Ahoy	48
Happy Birthday	52
Kiddy's Palette	58
Misty Heights (*Serial Story*)	60
Word Play	65
Dear Gokulam	67
Gokulam Times	68
Naturally Healthy	72
Grandmaworm	76
Personality	79
Billu	80

KALKI GROUP
HOUSE of QUALITY

GOKULAM

printed and published at
Bharathan Press
on behalf of
Bharathan Publications Private Limited
Kalki buildings,
47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal,
Chennai - 600 032

printer and publisher :
Lakshmi Natarajan

editor: Seetha Ravi

layouts :
S.Stephen, M.Mohan, B.Gopal

Tel : 044 - 4343 8888
fax : 044 - 4343 8899

editorial team:
044 - 4343 8822
gokulam@kalkiweekly.com

advertisements :
044 - 4343 8811
marketing@kalkiweekly.com

subscriptions :
044 - 4343 8833
subscription@kalkiweekly.com

sales :
044 - 4343 8844
sales@kalkiweekly.com

Internet Address:
www.kalkionline.com

to buy, read and enjoy online:
www.sangapalagai.com

subscription rates (one year):
inland : Rs.120/-
overseas : Rs.1200/-

THE Magazine for Children

Dear Reader,

Who could have guessed that the 'lead' pencil you use at school, would help a couple of scientists to win the Nobel prize for physics this year!

All of us are aware that the so called 'lead' pencil, actually has at its centre a thin circular strip of graphite, covered by wood. When the pencil is sharpened, the graphite tip is seen and when we write with it, the graphite is cleaved into thin layers that end up on paper as letters or drawings. Imagine a tiny fraction of these thin layers and you may end up with just a single layer or two of graphite, which is known as graphene!

*Novoselov

Humble Looks; Great Deeds!

Graphene has unique mechanical and electrical properties. It is more than 100 times stronger than the strongest steel and is very stretchable! Its electrical conductivity is very high. It is transparent and flexible. It can be used in touch screens, light panels, solar cells etc.. scientists tell us that it can have endless uses in future and because of its great strength and low weight, it will have welcome applications in aircrafts and satellites. It is likely to replace all forms of plastics in the years to come!

*Geim

No wonder Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov, from the university of Manchester, won the Nobel Prize for their successful research on graphene, a small speck of the innocent looking lead pencil!

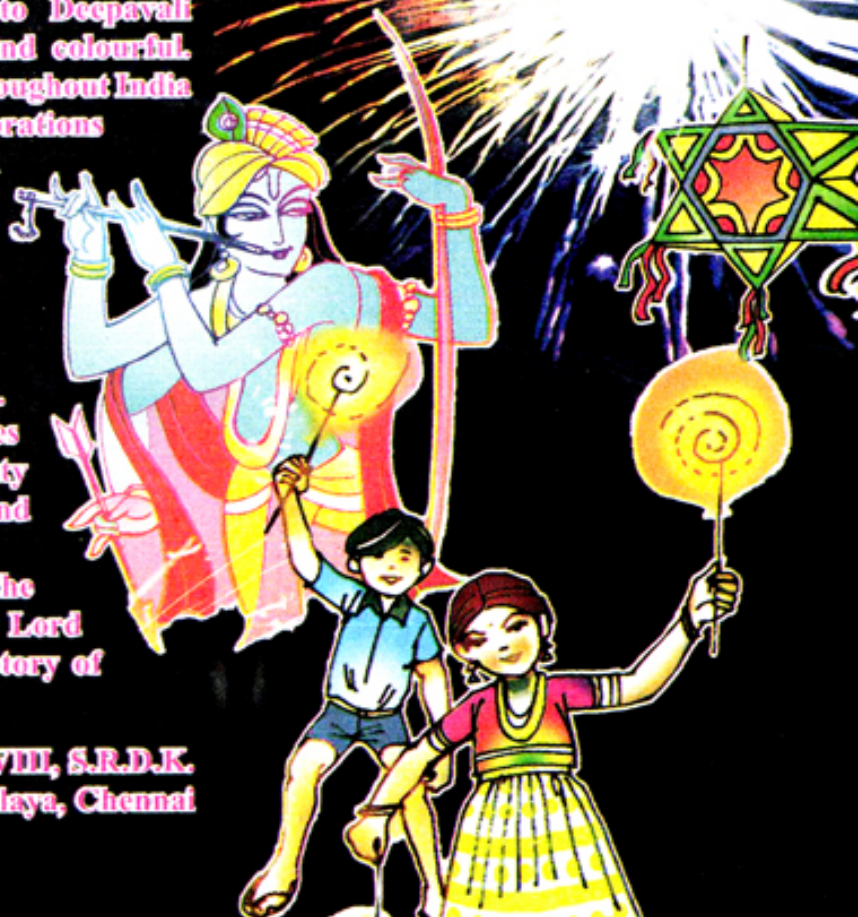
- Editor

A Colourful Festival

We all look forward to Deepavali because it is so fun-filled and colourful. This festival is celebrated throughout India in different ways. Most celebrations include new clothes and fireworks. In South India, the early morning oil bath is important on Deepavali day. We love to visit friends and relatives on this day and exchange greetings. It is a festival that removes differences and brings unity among people. The young and old enjoy Deepavali.

It is celebrated to mark the slaying of Narakasura by Lord Krishna. It signifies the victory of good over evil.

-V.Sankaranarayanan, Std.VIII, S.R.D.K. Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chennai



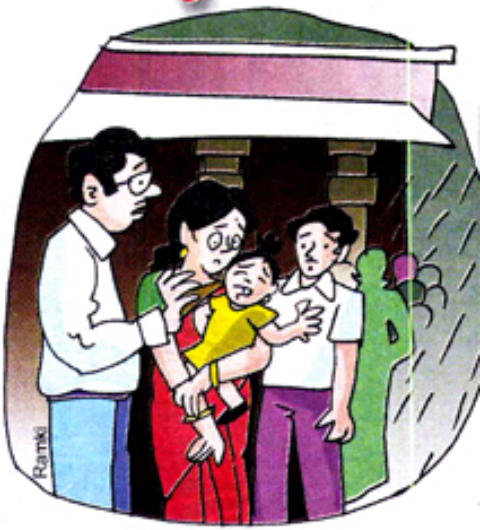
Stapler

Holidays had started and I was feeling rather bored. I went into the study room where I saw my father pinning together some papers with a stapler. I became curious. I wanted to know how the stapler worked. So, when my father left the room, I took the stapler and started to clip together some papers. There was some noise which distracted me and my finger slipped. Instead of stapling the papers, I had stapled my finger and it started to bleed! I screamed with pain and my mother came rushing to me. She took me to a doctor who bandaged my wound and gave me medication. From that day I have been very careful with staplers

-Kanishka Ganeriwal,
Std.VII, Chaitanya Vidyalaya,
Hyderabad

GOODBYE TO GOLD!

When I was about two years old, my parents took me to the Madurai Meenakshi temple. I would not walk and my mother had to carry me most of the time. As we entered the temple, it started to rain heavily. We took shelter under a canopy near the temple entrance. Suddenly, I felt a sharp prick at the back of my neck and started to cry loudly. My parents and others with me thought that I was crying because I felt suffocated by the huge crowd that had gathered to take shelter from the rain. They waited for the rain to subside and then we went into the temple for darshan. Only after we came back to our lodging



did my parents realize that the gold chain that they had put around my neck was missing. They understood that I had cried because I felt the pain of the chain being snatched from around my neck. My father even lodged a police complaint but it was of no use. The thief had escaped with my gold chain. After that incident, till today, I do not wear gold.

-Pooja. S. Bhat, Std. XII, Jyothi Nivas, Bengalooru

WHEN I MADE HISTORY..!

During my tenth exams, I had done my language paper very well and was sure of getting centum in maths. Only two exams to go and I

Scare!

was looking forward to the freedom of holidays. As had been instructed I reached the exam venue half an hour before time, with utmost preparation. My best friend Shriya came to me and said, "Don't be tense, the question paper will be very easy. Choose the right questions carefully. Do you remember the dates of annexation..? Please recall them once for me." It was only then that I realized that I had prepared for geography exam instead of history. Just twenty minutes to go and quickly I recalled all that I had studied for the history exam and entered the exam hall. Fortunately, the paper was an easy one and by the Grace of God I scored 95 per cent marks in that paper.

-S.Subhashree, St.XII, Jayendra S.S.J.School, Tirunelvelli

FIERCE QUIZZING!

On August 28th, ISCKON had organized a Heritage Fest competition in which there were many activities. Our school students participated in one of them which was the Vedic Quiz. Along with Supreeth and Shreyas, I too was one of the participants in the quiz. I was the leader of our team. There was firstly a written exam for fifty marks in which 42 schools participated. Out of these only four

schools were selected for the finals and one of them was ours. There was some fierce quizzing in the final round and at the end of it, our team named Janardhana was declared as the winner. But the team that came second – Vamana, was not far behind – only four points away from us. It was a fabulous experience for me and my friends.

-Aashik Narayan, Std.VII,
Jindal Vidya Mandir,
Vidyanagar, (Bellary)

MISCHIEVOUS MOMENT!

When I was much smaller, I used to go to my cousin's place to spend the holidays. I am a playful girl and my cousin too is of my type. But my cousin's mother, my aunt, is a strict lady and always wanted us to spend our time usefully. Once, she locked us both into a room with a general knowledge book and told us that we had to read it. After an hour or so, she would open the door and quiz us. After scanning the book for a while, we both got into a mischievous mood and looked around for something to do in the room. The only object that could be used in that room was the telephone. So we just randomly dialed a couple of numbers and pretended that we were calling from a television network company. When we heard the door being opened, we quickly placed the phone back. Aunty called us fo lunch and just as we finished eating the phone rang. My cousin answered it and her face turned nervous. I went up to her and enquired and sure enough, at the other end, it was the person whom we had called, posing as TV network people! The caller also happened to be my uncle's friend. You can imagine how annoyed the adults would have been with us. We got a spanking and a sound scolding.

-B.Hamrutha, Std.X,
St.John's Chennai.

Colour Up!

The Royal Handshake

Two maids knelt at his feet, fastening the buckles on his shoes; one man was at his waist, tying a most elaborate sash in place. Yet another was combing through his luxurious hair. After all, he was the son of the Duke of Regal, of the planet Regulus; only one of the four dukes directly under the King Rex. His father had been the King's closest confidante and Regulus's ambassador ever since his career began. It was only natural that his son succeeded to his post. Besides, Domin was so very good at it. He glanced at the mirror, admiring his beautifully curved eyebrows, shapely lips and sparkling eyes. All his family had made a name for themselves as handsome people – but their chief talent was in diplomacy. Domin's father was such a clever speaker that he could sell sand to a desert-dweller. Domin was said to have inherited this gift. He might be only sixteen years old – but he had already been on several diplomatic missions

on behalf of Regulus and each had been a success.

This latest trip, to the famed planet of Behemoth, would be a piece of cake. Supposedly, the Behem had a very unique piece of technology that allowed them to communicate through their minds! Domin's father might have gone himself, but Domin pleaded with him to let him go. The Duke had been thoughtful. Surely Domin was too young? Many of his elders and betters had failed. Domin overruled all his objections. The harder the task, the surer he was, to succeed.

Someone knocked on the door. A tall, lanky boy, roughly Domin's own age, dressed in simple robes entered and bowed. "Your Grace, I am Frolische. I have been asked by your father to serve you well on this journey." He fidgeted, looking out of place among the richness of Domin's rooms.

Domin frowned. "Where

Pavithra Srinivasan

does you father work?"

Frolische blushed. "He works with your father, Sir," he stammered, and Domin sighed. The Duke was always sorry for lesser privileged sons of parents who worked under him, and allowed them to help him. Domin was often irritated by what he considered a weakness. Frolische bowed again, and Domin was struck by his chiselled nose. There was something familiar about him, but he couldn't place his finger on it.

"Shall I put your papers in order, Sir?" Frolische asked, and Domin cut him off.

"I need no papers; what I need is all in my head," he pointed grandly, and Frolische blinked. He bowed again and then looked as though he didn't know what to do, until Domin banished him to the transport ships to carry his luggage.

They finally spied Behemoth in space, like a bit of coral in black velvet

Regulus's two moons were high above, when they finally departed. Behemoth was more than a day away, and Domin intended to come up with a list of products they might trade with. The Duke had warned him of previous mishaps by other ambassadors, but Domin had waved him off. Frankly, he didn't see wha the problem was. Whatever it was he was sure to solve them. He' certainly read enough to fill a doze books.

When they finally spie Behemoth in space, like a bit o coral in black velvet, Domin wa more than ready to get back on land

Frolische had become somethin of a nuisance. All through the trip

he'd tramped through Domin' quarters, asking if he needed t check this or that, wear a ca or research more on Behemoth Research! Did this stupid boy reall think he knew about diplomati missions than he, Domin, Viscoun

of Regal did? When Frolische finally committed the blunder of asking if Domin would like to get in touch with an ambassador who had earlier made the trip to Behemoth, to ask for his experiences, Domin lost his temper.

"Stay two steps behind me, and never talk unless I tell you to," he thundered, and Frolische retired, abashed.

Behemoth was a sprawling, spotless planet. Its people were kind without being too friendly. Domin relaxed, smiling at the Behem ambassador who received him politely. So relieved was he at not being turned away that he shook hands heartily. The ambassador's face was carefully expressionless; Domin was led to sumptuous quarters, supplied with plenty of assistants, and dined in the lap of luxury. He felt he had scored a victory. The negotiations would take time, but he would return with the device, he thought, closing his eyes for sleep.

When he woke up, he was back in his own ship.

"What the -!" he shouted as he stood up, clutching at his bed-clothes. His head was swimming. "Where is everyone?"

A soft tap; Frolische appeared. "Sir?"

"Why are we in the ship? I was on Behemoth –"

"They drugged your dinner and sent you back," Frolische said apologetically. "Apparently, you ignored their most important rule. They would not negotiate with you."

Domin's jaw dropped. "I – what? That's ridiculous. I studied everything – but what would you know of such things, idiot?"

"The Behem do not shake hands with those who are not royals," Frolische interposed. "You broke that taboo the moment they greeted you."

"But how was I to know –" Domin groaned. "That ambassador

who failed. He would have known, wouldn't he?"

"That was why I wanted you to talk to him," Frolische said. "You read up everything you could – but there's such a thing as experience. Asking our elders would have done no harm."

Domin groaned again. "And now I've failed in the negotiations before it even started. I so wanted to bring this technology to Regulus …"

A strange smile appeared on

Frolische's face. "At least you feel badly about not benefiting Regulus, rather than about your track record." As Domin blinked, he grinned. "I'd almost given up on you."

"You -give up!? – wait a minute," Domin paused. He looked carefully at Frolische, who suddenly looked taller. More mature. Something in the way he held himself was regal. Regal. Regulus!

"Oh, great Goddess," Domin breathed. Suddenly, he knew why Frolische's face was familiar. "You're – your Majesty?" he suddenly went down on his knees, before the Crown Prince of Regulus.

"Rise, Viscount Domin," the Crown Prince raised him by the shoulders. "The Behem deal only with the royals of any world; I carried out the negotiation on behalf of Regulus."

There's such a thing as experience. Asking our elders would have done no harm.

"But then –" Domin stammered. "Why was I sent here?"

"You were a natural successor to your father's position – but the Duke was worried that you were too arrogant about your skills. You are brilliant, but you needed to understand that experience is worth more than book knowledge. I volunteered to help you do so."

"But I failed," Domin murmured.

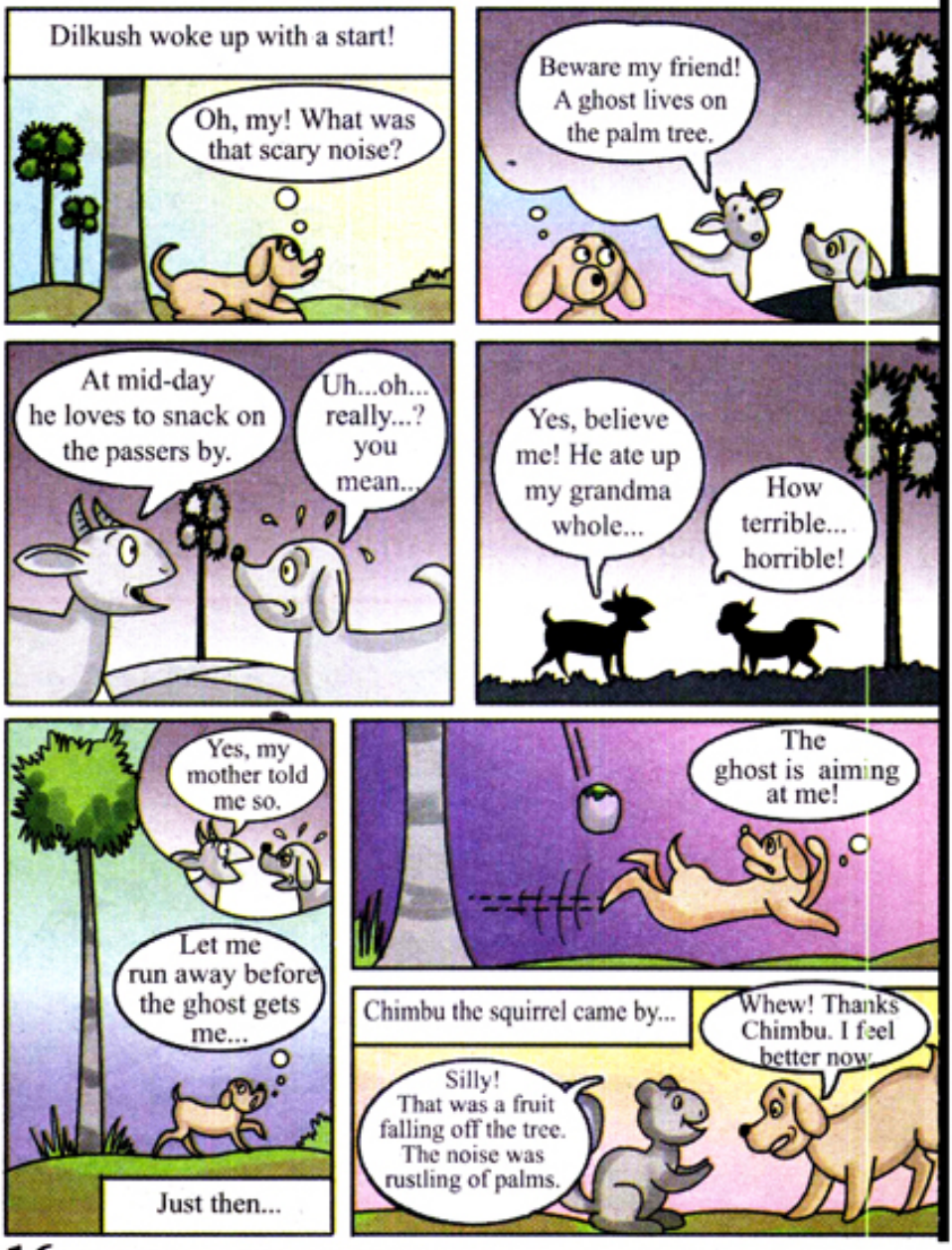
"You've learnt your lesson, I think. After all," the Crown prince smiled. "I will need to gather my court, in time – and I think I've found the best diplomat for it!"

Diwali in the Jungle! – Find 5 differences between the two pictures.

Answers: 1. Elephant's tusk 2. Bird 3. Giraffe's horn 4. Monkey's crackers 5. Rabbit's crackers

THE HAUNTED TREE!

Story: S. Thanigaivel, Kanchipuram
Picture: Pillai



GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

The 'Must Read' Magazine for Children

Subscribe Now

Name : .....

Address : .....

: .....

: ..... Pin : .....

Phone No: ..... Email : .....

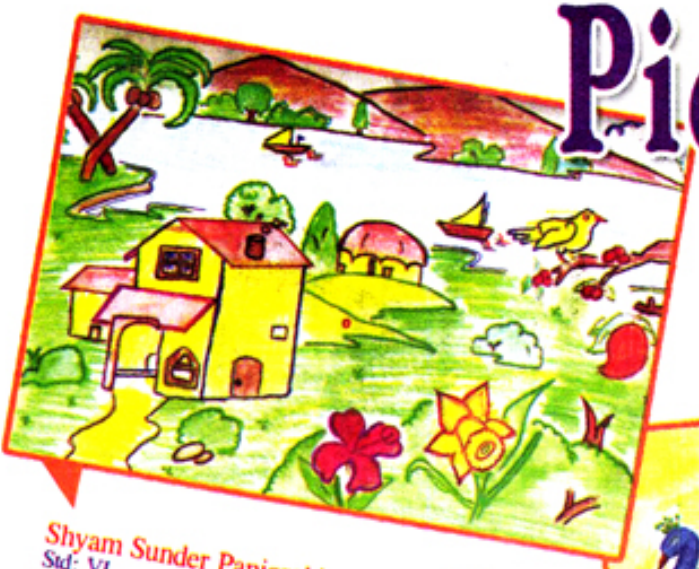
Inland	☐ 1 year Rs.120/-	☐ 2 years Rs.220/-	Overseas	☐ 1 year Rs.1,200/-	☐ 2 years Rs.2,200/-

Amount enclosed : Rs.☐ Only Demand Drafts and Money Orders favouring 'Gokulam English' payable at Chennai, accepted.

You can also register with your newspaper agent for a month after month door delivery.

The Circulation Manager
Gokulam
'Kalki Buildings',
47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road,
Ekkaduthangal, CHENNAI - 600 032.
E-mail: subscription@kalkiweekly.com

Picture



Shyam Sunder Panigrahi
Std: VI,
St. Xavier's HS,
Rayagada.

V.Shackshini
Std: VIII,
Chettinad Vidya Mandir,
Karur.

S.Arun
Std: X,
Sri Sankara Vidyalaya,
Puducherry.

Perfect

Lilabati Mohanta
Std: X,
St. Francis SSS,
Chhattisgarh.

T.Abinaya
Std: IX,
KV.1, A.F.S,
Chennai.

G.M.Yogesh
Std: VI,
Sri Ramana Vidyalaya,
Rajapalayam.

S. Kiruthika
Std: VIII,
Nag Matric School,
Vellore.

Name: **Basavaprabhu.J.S**
Age: 14
Address: R.No.4065, Wodeyar House, Sainik School, Bijapur
Hobbies: Playing hockey, reading novels, playing computer games, singing, horse riding and swimming .

Name: **G.Amirtha Pooja**
Age: 8
Address: 9B, T.K Beach Road, New No.37, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai - 600 041
Hobbies: Reading books, drawing, watching T.V. and playing with friends.

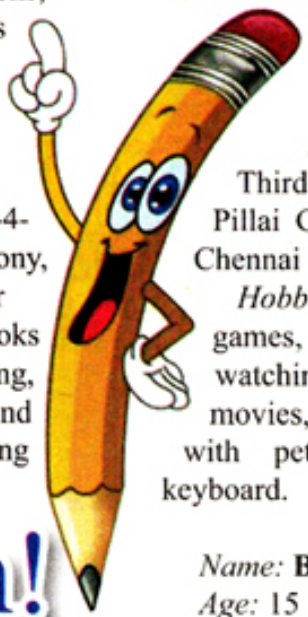
Name: **Tato Haging**
Age: 16
Address: Adm. No.2968, Sainik School, Post Box 21, Pangei, Imphal East, Manipur - 795001
Hobbies: Playing football, painting, listening to music and reading books.

One in a

Name: **G.R.Bhavesh**
Age: 13
Address: No.4, Thiyagaraya Pillai Street, Chennai - 600 001

Hobbies: Playing cricket, participating in competitions, playing computer games and reading story books.

Name: **H.Ashwin**
Age: 15
Address: H.No: 15-4-165, C.B.Nagar Colony, Kumbarwada Road, Bidar
Hobbies: Reading books on astronomy, painting, singing devotional and patriotic songs and watching educative documentaries.



Million!

Name: **Adrian Joseph David**
Age: 13
Address: 37/C, Crystal Square Apartments, Vaidyanathan Street, Shenoy Nagar, Chennai - 600 030
Hobbies: Surfing the net, reading magazines, writing articles and riding the bicycle.

Name: **Ananthakrishnan.S,**
Age: 12
Address: Kizhakeveedu, Thalayal, Thembamuttam, Balaramapuram P.O., TVM Kazhakootam
Hobbies: Singing and collecting stamps.

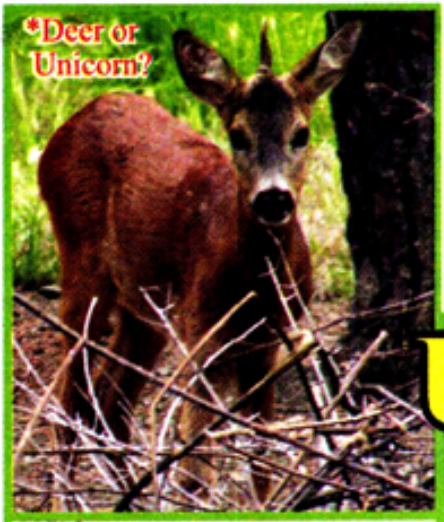
Hi Buddy!

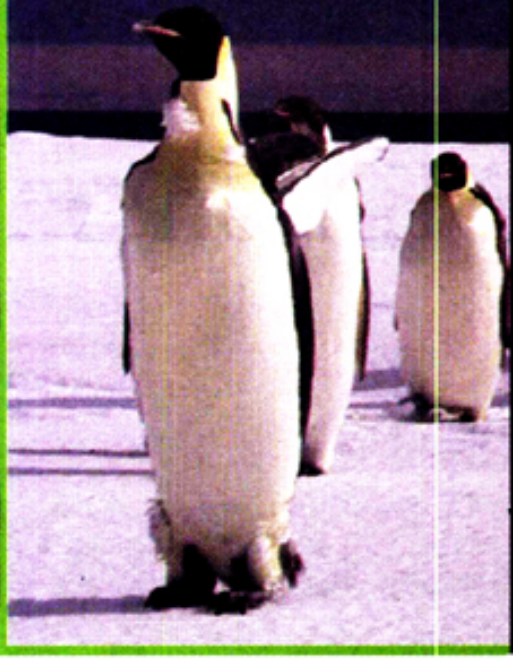
Name: **N.Kamesh Kannan**
Age: 13
Address: No. 5/3, Third Street, Chinna Raja Pillai Garden, Kodambakkam, Chennai - 600 024
Hobbies: Playing computer games, surfing the net, cycling, watching T.V. and adventure movies, swimming, playing with pets, and playing the keyboard.

Name: **B.Gayathri**
Age: 15
Address: Flat No. 7B, Block C, New No. 23, Badal Palace, Hastinapuram Main Road, Purushotham Nagar, Chrompet, Chennai - 600 044
Hobbies: Reading, singing, listening to music, surfing the net, cycling and making new friends.

Name: **R.Priyanka**
Age: 9
Address: Flat No.107, Chitrashila Apartments, Behind Shekhar Hospital, Indiranagar, Lucknow - 226016
Hobbies: Reading books, dancing, singing, playing badminton, chess and computer games, and cycling.

Unicorn –





An ant can survive for two weeks underwater!

The rhino horn is not bone but millions of tiny hairs stuck together. And unlike in other horned creatures the rhino's horn is not attached to its skull.

Antartica is the only continent without reptiles or snakes.

-Radhika Jayaraj, Std.VIII, Kol
Perumal Chetty Vaishnav Sr
Sec. School, Chenna

The world's largest amphibia is the giant salamander. It can grov up to six feet in length!

-R.Ranjana, Std.VII, DAV Girl
SSS, Chenna

A deer with a single horn o the centre of its head, very muc like the mythical unicorn, has bee

potted in a nature preserve park in taly!

-A.Mohammed Yusuf, Std.IX, Yuva Bharathi MHSS, Salem

An adult porcupine has about 0,000 quills on its body! These uills are very sharp and have barbed tip. They are used as defense mechanism when the orcupine feels threatened.

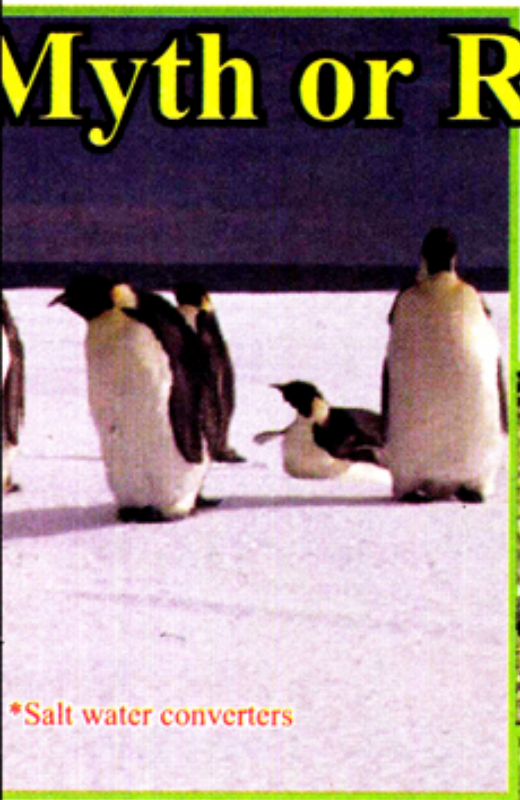
-Srithi.S, Std.VII, AMM HSS, Chennai

Myth or Reality?

Fur & Feathers

Penguins have the ability to convert salt water into fresh water. They have a gland near their beaks that filters saltwater. Once the gland gets full, the penguins will knock their beaks on a rock to empty the salt out!

-R.K.Lekha Sree, Std.VII, TNPL MHSS, Karur



*Salt water converters

*The Giant Salamander

*Thorny Porcupine

Laughathon!

Customer *(after finishing his meal at a hotel):* I would like to pay through this card.

Cashier: But this is your ration card!

Customer: Yes, of course! Haven't you mentioned in the notice board that all cards are accepted?

Teacher: That's an excellent essay for someone of your age.

Student: How about for someone of my mother's age?

-R.Dinesh, Std.XI, TNPL MHSS, Karur

Customer: Waiter! This coffee tastes like mud.

Waiter: It is freshly ground, sir.

-R.Rama, Std.IX, St.Thomas' School, New Delhi

The 'Failed' Teacher!

Mother: I suppose everybody in your class cleared their exams and got promoted to the next session.

Child: Yes mom, everyone except the teacher.

-S.Rithika, GRD MHSS, Coimbatore

Father: Who gave you that black eye?

Son: No one! I had to fight for it.

-Shrenik Sanaki, Std.VII, Shalom International School, Satara

Special Poem

Children's Day

He was chacha to all children
He loved none greater, for certain

A red rose was always pinned on his coat,
On his daughter Indira he did dote.

Was the first Prime Ministerof our country,
With a vision that none should evergo hungry.

Set up dams, factories and steel plants,
To educational institutions he gave grants.

You are right, it's Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,
Whose birthday, is celebrated as Children's Day too!

Can anyone forget his role in the freedom struggle?
So in his memory let us blow the bugle.

- Gowreesh Prabhu,
Std.VIII, Sri Ramakrishna
High School,
Mangalore

My Trip To

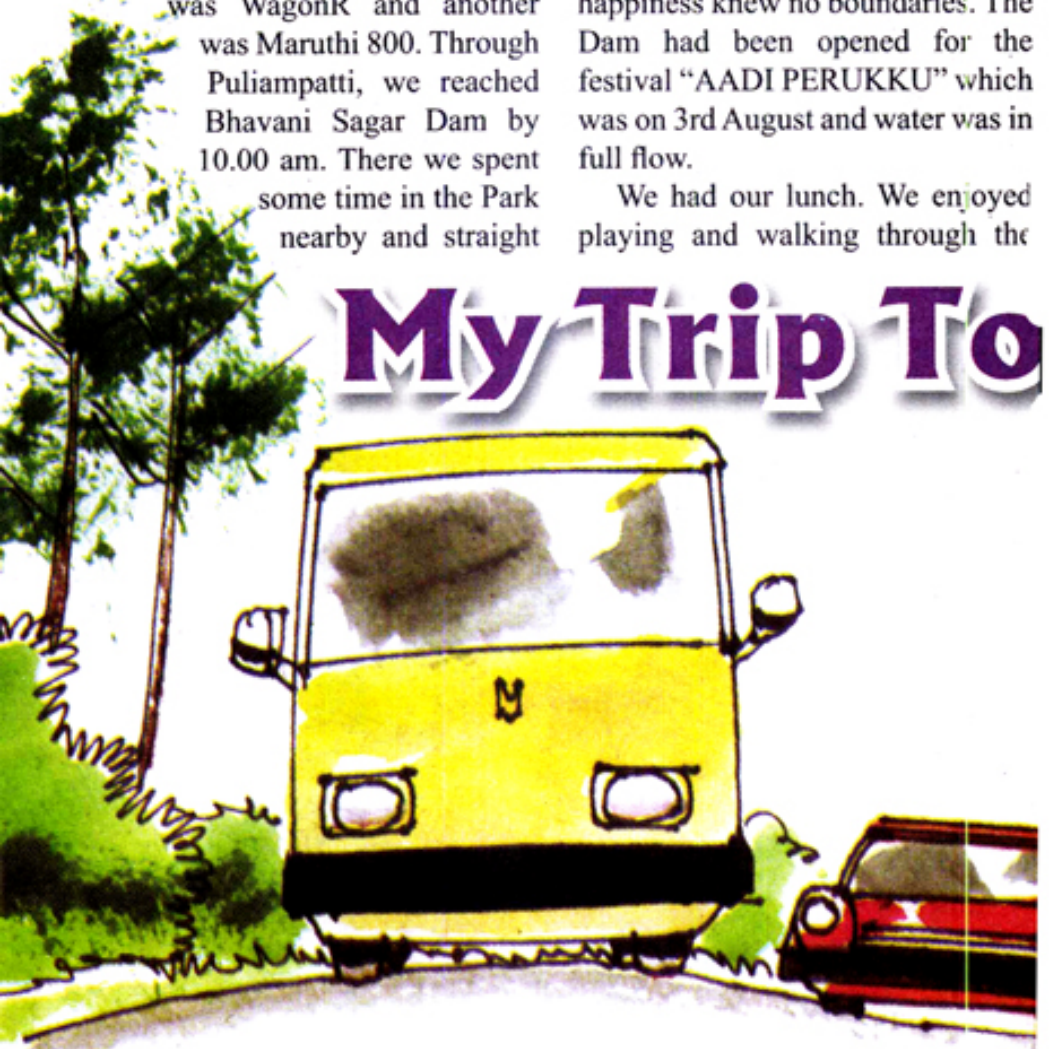
In the last week of July, my uncle came to Coimbatore from Srilanka. He was accompanied by his wife and son. They reached Coimbatore on 25th July 2010.

Ours is a small family and I am the one and only son and my uncle too has only one son. On 28th, we started by 8.30 am in two cars. One was WagonR and another was Maruthi 800. Through Puliampatti, we reached Bhavani Sagar Dam by 10.00 am. There we spent some time in the Park nearby and straight away we went to the famous temple in Bannari.

We worshipped Arulmigu Bannari Amman. We left by 12 noon to Kodiveri dam which was about 25 kilometers from Bannari.

We had packed lunch – lemon rice and curd rice. And as soon as we reached Kodiveri Dam, our happiness knew no boundaries. The Dam had been opened for the festival "AADI PERUKKU" which was on 3rd August and water was in full flow.

We had our lunch. We enjoyed playing and walking through the



water falls. My uncle, aunt and Manav (their son) took so many photos in that place along with us. There was boating also but we did not make an attempt. We spent some three hours there. This trip was a memorable one.

- R. Aravind , Std. VII
GKD MHSS,
Coimbatore

MISSING KEYS!

When I was nine years old, my mother and I started out to shop for groceries. We decided to throw our garbage out as we left the house..We completed the shopping expedition and came back home. My mother opened her purse to take out the house keys but they were missing! Suddenly it struck me that we should check in the garbage bin near the house, where we had dropped off the garbage. Sure enough, the house keys were there! Since then my mother always checks if she has put the house keys into her purse, whenever she leaves the house.

-R.Balaji, Std. VIII,
Maadalena MHSS,
Tirnelvelli

HORROR NIGHT

It was a summer evening. My father brought the D.V.D of the horror film 'Krishna Cottage'. After watching the movie I had my

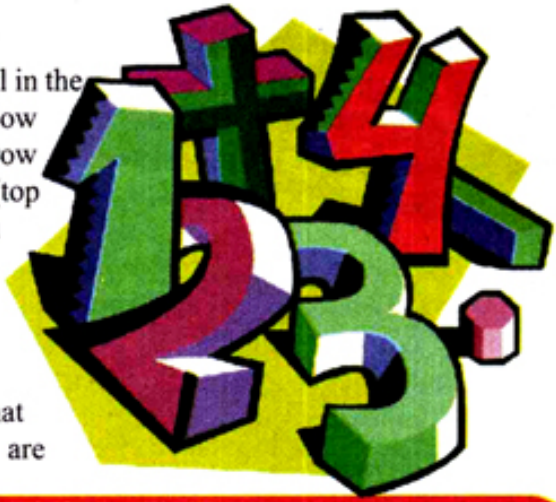
dinner and went to sleep. During midnight I was awakened by the sound of foot-steps. I woke up and sat on the bed. I was terrified at the thought of the ghost. I decided to call my mother who was sleeping in the next room. But I was so scared that words did not came out of my mouth. I tried to speak many times but I could not do so. So I decided to pray to god. I went on praying and did not notice when I fell asleep. On waking up in the morning I told my mother about what had happened. She said that the thoughts of the horror film must have been hovering in my mind, So, I would have imagined such a sound. After this incident I was so scared that I was even afraid to go to the toilet alone.

A few days later when I was studying in my room, I heard the same sound that I heard that night. I rushed and examined every nook and corner of my house .Then I came to know that the sound was from the backyard of the house, where the leaf of a banana tree was rustling on the wall of my house! I could not believe that such a small thing could frighten us so much!

- Aditya.Sarangi, Std.VII,
St.Anne's Convent School,
Hemchandrapur, Orissa

Dear children,

Simple, but challenging...! Fill in the missing numbers in the grid below to complete the equations. Each row (left to right) and each column (top to bottom) is a math equation. You may use the numbers 1 through 9. Make sure you use each number only once.



Tip: Remember that multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

MATHZLLE - 5

Clue: There are no negative numbers inside the grid.

Name : .....

.....

Age : .....

Class : .....

School : .....

.....

*Residential Address : .....

.....

.....

.....

Pin .....

Signature : .....

	+		+		18
+		÷		×	
	+		×		19
×		×		+	
	−		×		4
69		4		23	

-Priya Ravi

*Local address is a must for overseas entries.

- *Five all correct entries will get a reward of Rs **50/-** each.*
- *Last date for receipt of entries: **25.11.2010.***
- *Editor's decision is final.*

The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings,

47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.

MATHZLLE -3 RESULT

8	+	1	–	6	3
÷		–		÷	
4	–	5	+	3	2
÷		x		+	
2	–	7	+	9	4
1		-34		11	

Congratulations! Here are the winners of Mathzlle – 3 (September 2010) and the solutions as well. Winners have been selected by a lucky draw from out of all correct entries. The results of Mathzlle – 5 will be published in the January 2010 issue.

1) R.Badrinath, Std.V, Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Rajapalayam

2) Sundeep, Std.IX, St. Mary's School, Port Blair

3) Kirti Sagar Sharmaa, Std.IX, St. Vincent's HS, Pune

4) G. Amirtha Pooja, Std.III, St. Mark's Nursery and Primary School, Chennai

5) Prasad.K.Shet, Std.VIII, Mahila and Nutan English HS, Goa

Colour Quiz!

What is the difference between an orange and an apple?

The colour of orange is orange, but the colour of apple is not apple!

-Nitin Prince Reuben, Std.XII, Delhi Public School, Chhattisgarh.

What do you call an ant that skips school?
A truant!

What do you call a greedy ant?
An anteater!

Why did the elephant put his trunk across the path?
To trip up the ants!

Ant Bites!

What do you call an ant in space?
Cosmonant or astronant!

What medicine would you give an ill ant?
Antibiotics!

What do you get if you cross osme ants with some tics?
All sorts of antics!

Compiled by:
Fabian Lenin,
Std.VI, Bell M.H.S.S.,
Tirunelveli.

This month we have two fun recipes - one cool and refreshing and the other hot and spicy. Try out each on a different day and do take help from grown ups at home, wherever necessary. Especially ensure you have their permission to use the microwave oven..!

DAHI SEMIA

Ingredients:

Vermicelli – 1 cup
Fresh curd- 1 ½ cups
Grated carrot- 1 ½ cups
Jeera powder- ½ teaspoon
Chat masala- ½ teaspoon
Grated/chopped cucumber- ½ cup
Green chilllies- 2 nos.
Coriander- a few leaves
Mustard seeds- ½ teaspoon.
Table salt- as per taste.

Method:

The roasted vermicelli should

be soaked in boiling water for 10 minutes and then strained out. Take the fresh curd and season it with the mustard seeds spluttered in a spoon of hot oil. Now mix the grated cucumber and carrot with this curd. Cut green chillies into tiny pieces and add to the curd. Throw salt in. Garnish the curd with coriander leaves, jeera powder and chat masala. Finally, mix this curd into the vermicelli.

The Yummy Dahi Semia is ready to be served…

- Anjana Ganesh, Std.VIII,
ITI Central School,
Bengalooru

Fun!

SIMPLE VEG. PIZZA

Ingredients:

Pizza base - 1
Pizza sauce - 2 1/2 teaspoon
Onion chopped into small cubes - 1
Tomato chopped into small cubes - 1
Capsicum chopped into small cubes - 1
Ginger-garlic paste - 1 teaspoon

Little Chef

Cheese - enough to cover the pizza base.
Salt to taste

Method:

Spread the pizza sauce evenly on the pizza base and keep it aside. Mix all the vegetables and paste, place in a casserole and cook for four minutes in a microwave oven. Add salt and again cook for a minute Spread this mixture on to the pizza base evenly. Grate the cheese and sprinkle over vegetables such that it covers the entire pizza base. Lastly, heat this for 2-3 minutes in the microwave. Remove, allow to cool for a few minutes and then bite into it!

- Lakshmi Ajaykumar, Std.X,
St.Arnold's High School,
Mumbai.

My Terrible

Once when I was sleeping at night I heard a disturbing noise. I thought it was my father taking a bath. I switched on the light and looked at the time-2:00 A.M! And dad wouldn't take a bath at that time! So I decided to go and see where the noise was coming from. I looked everywhere but I could not spot anything. Then at last, when I opened the door of the bathroom, I saw that it was a rat who was jumping on the plastic tub and making a noise.

- Himani Surana, Std. IX, Hindu Senior Secondary School, Chennai

SCHOOL FAIR AWARDS!

It was the last day of school.The holidays were to start the next day. Everyone was as sad to leave their teachers and go up to a higher grade as they were excited about the holidays. So, we organized a special programme, or rather, a party! Without our teacher knowing, we brought goodies and kept them at the back of the class. The party started in the first period. Most of us didn't know that there was a party, so it was a pleasant surprise for most students and our teacher too. It began with the cutting of the cake. After all the goodies were eaten, the fun started. We had a talent show where everyone was

allowed to display their talent and prizes were given to the best performances. Our teacher was the judge. Some were shy at the beginning but with some urging, they too got up and participated confidently. Then, some of us went up and announced that we would now be giving prizes to the students who had done well in the year, not only in studies but also in sports, competitions etc. The 'School Fair Awards' programme as we called it went off successfully.

- Varsha.V, Std. VII, Vagdevi Vilas school, Bengalooru

MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

A ten day NSS Camp was organized by our Carmel School, Erode at Periyachettipalayam village from 29th December to 4th January 2010. This year the theme of this special camp was "Healthy Youth for Healthy India". Twenty five NSS volunteers participated in the camp under the supervision of a programme officer. During the camp various activities like talks related to the theme and other social issues, interaction with the community and an awareness programme were organized in the adopted village. The students planned and conducted activities to make villagers aware of the ways in which they could contribute to the progress of their village.

Periyachettipalayam is a small village 5 kms away from Erode town. All volunteers were accommodated in the government school at the village. Initial hardships with respect to accommodation and hygiene brought them together as a united and supportive group.

Volunteers understood the villagers' culture, customs and means of livelihood. They came to know of the social problems that the villagers faced

in their day to day life - malnutrition being the most prominent. Unemployment, child marriage, alcoholism and ignorance were common as well. Corruption and inefficiency prevalent in the government machinery added to their problems. Also, the poor level of education was something to be sympathized with. Thus, the only way by which we could help them lead better lives was to teach the students and create awareness among villagers. While we did this, we too learnt a lot - both from the villagers and from the special programmes that had been organized for us at the camp. It was a reminder for the students that there is still a lot of work to be done to bring the villages of our country on par with the rich cities. The camp was a way of fulfilling our obligation toward society and learning that the we can make a difference if we want to.

- Santanu Sasidharan Std. XI, Carmel M.H.S.S, Erode

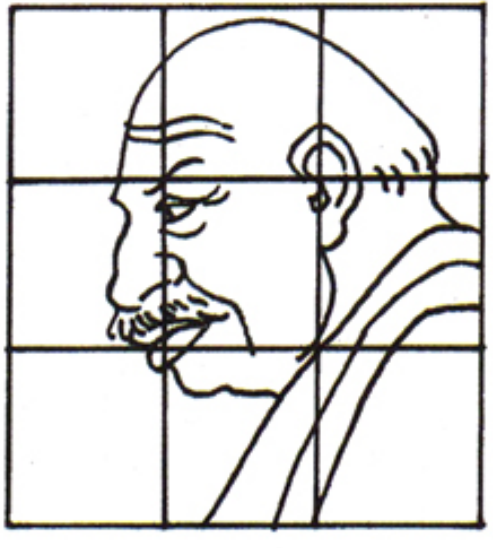
SPECIAL SMILES!

I live in Dubai. During my summer vacation this year, I visited my aunt who stays in Bengalooru. My aunt works in a special needs school. One day, she decided to take me along with her to the school. I was very enthusiastic and eager to see a special needs school. When I entered the classroom, I saw many children each with a different kind of disability. They were all very happy to have me as a friend and I too was thrilled to be with them. I helped them by teaching them alphabets and numbers. I realized that I should not grumble for small reasons when even these special children had lovely smiles on their faces. I strongly feel that we all should accept these children as our friends, too. They should never be left out and we should always lend a helping hand to them. It was indeed a wonderful experience which I hope I will have again in my life.

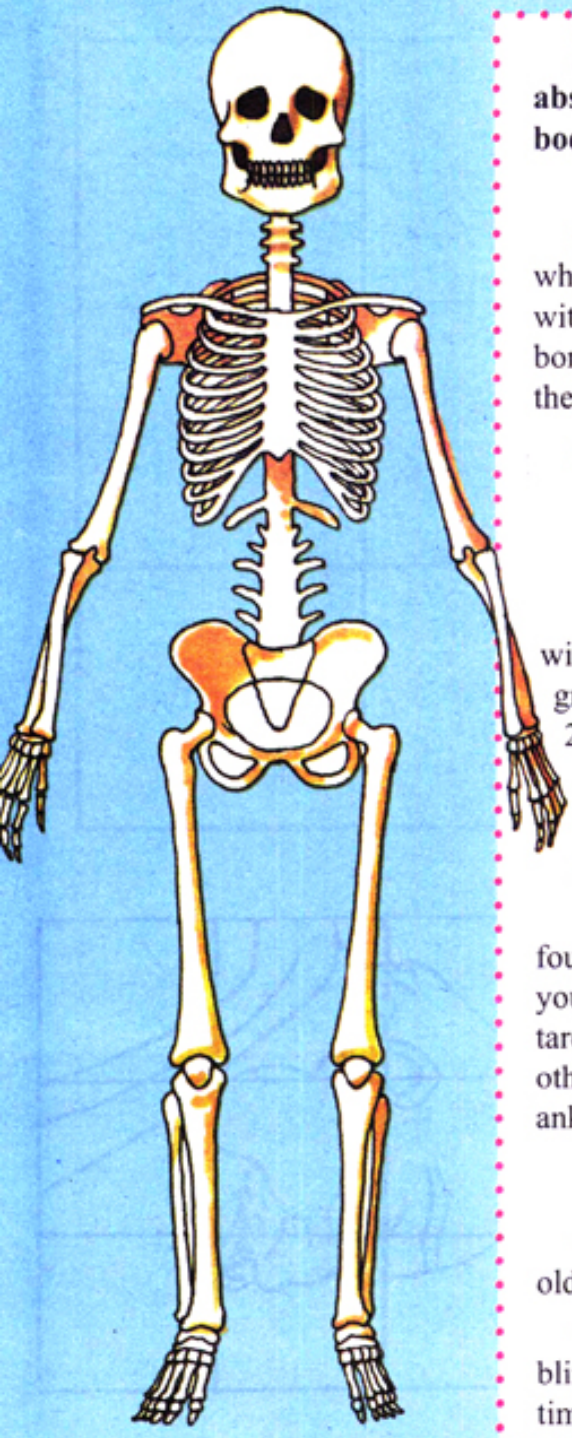
- Arundhati P. Kalyan,
Std. VII, Our Own English
High School, Dubai

Can you Draw?

Copy the picture of Kamaraj to the larger box on the right with the help of the squares. To know more about Kamaraj see page 79.



- Kala



Here are a few fascinating absurd facts about the human body:

BONES:

- An adult has 206 bones whereas a new born child is born with more than 300 bones. The bones join and fuse together as they grow.
- At birth, a baby is born without kneecaps. They only grow when the baby is between 2-6 years old.
- An average human's thigh bone is much stronger than concrete!
- A quarter of the bones found in your body are found in your feet - consisting of your tarcels, your metatarcels and the other smaller bones around the ankle.

FACE:

- As a human being grows older, their eye colour gets lighter.
- On average, the human eye blinks approximately 4,200,000 times in one year.

Shout

for Your Coffee!

The sound of 'sea waves' we hear when we put our ear to a shell, does not come fom the shell itself. It is the echo of blood pulsing in the listener's own ear!

If you shout for eight years, seven months and six days, you would have generated enough energy to heat a cup of coffee.

- M.Harini, Std.X,
St. Francis Xavier's Anglo Indian Hr. Sec.School,
Chennai.

A human's nose and ears never stop growing throughout their life.

On average, women can hear better then men, but men can read smaller characters.

It has been proven that brushing your teeth regularly reduces the risk of heart disease.

Women blink about twice as much as men.

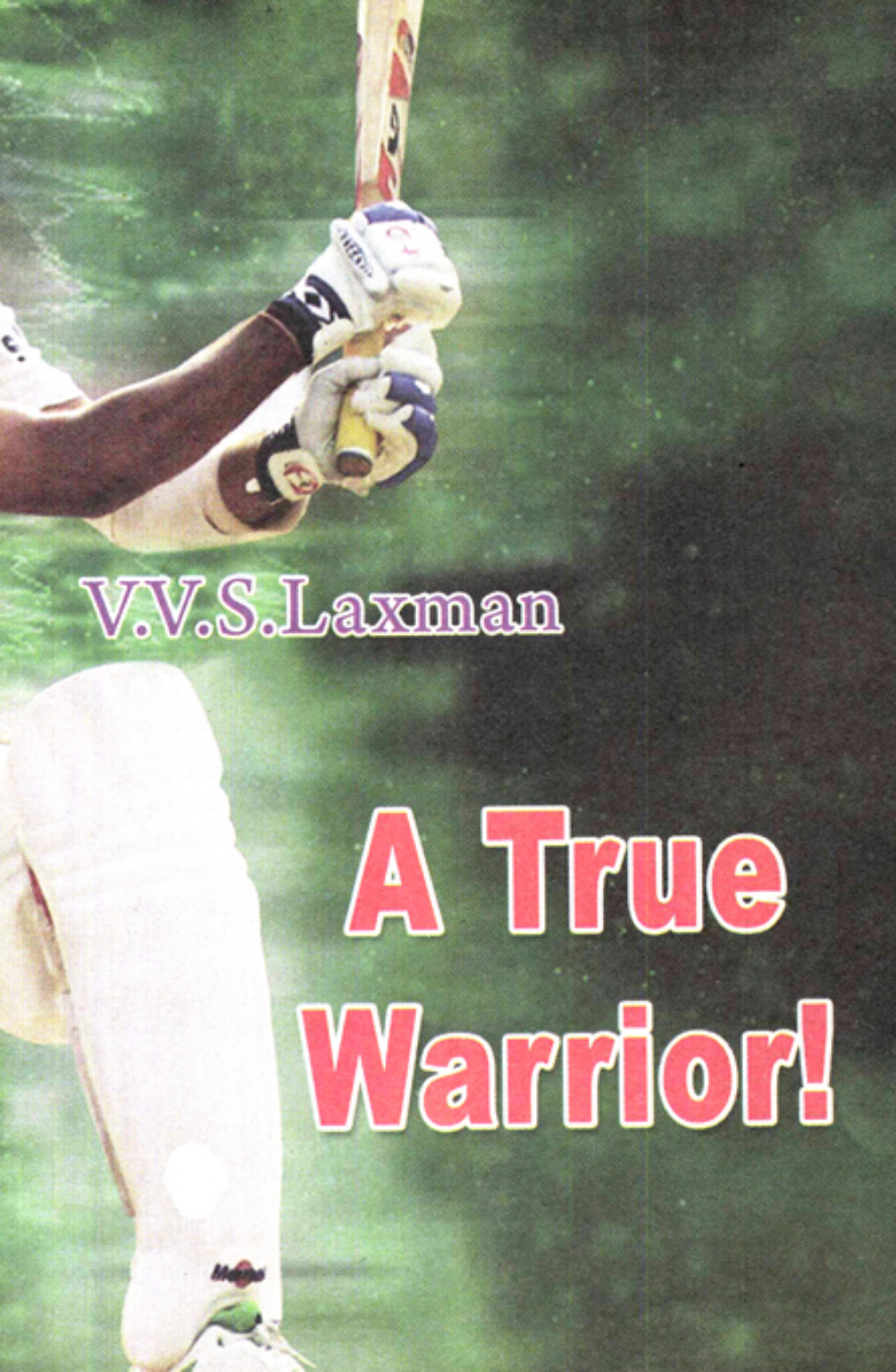
Each and every person has a differnet tongue-print.

An average human being laughs 15 times a day.

- Akshayaa Govindan, Std.X,
Garden International School, Thailand

GOKULAM

POSTER



V.V.S.Laxman

A True Warrior!

Be Independent;

Trust Gokulam readers to come up with unique thoughts..! This month they have a criss cross of arguments to show why parents should or should not help children with their school projects - both fiercely and logically defending their cause.

Projects and activities are given to children so they gain not only knowledge, but also confidence. Only when they do it by themselves will their confidence evolve.

- Priyankar, Std VIII, Little Rock Indian School, Brahmawar (Udupi); C.Nisha, Std VI, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan MHSS, Erode; Anjana Ganesh, Std.IX, ITI Central School, Bengalooru.

Outside of India, where I live, we do projects on our own. The question you have asked is not appealing to children who want to be independent and stay confident.

- Pranav Kolady, Fourth Grade, Eaton Elementary School, Cupertino, C.A (USA)

Projects are given to children to improve their knowledge; to learn new things. They gather information from books and many sources. If parents do the projects this experience

is denied to their child. It hampers the child's growth.

-S. Nares, Std.IX, Vasavi Vidyalaya, Coimbatore; Kailash Subramanian, Std.V, Jawahar Vidyalaya Senior Secondary School, Chennai; Sneha.S., Std.X, Avila Convent MHSS, Coimbatore; Akshaya Parthasarathy, Std.XII, Vidyodaya Matriculation Academy, Chennai, Ram Padmanabhan, Std.VI, National Centre for Excellence, Bengalooru; S. Pravallika Narayan, Std.X, Atomic Energy Central School, Hyderabad

Partial involvement of parents is necessary. They can give suggestions

Viewpoint

and ideas. Very young children can take their parents' help for actually doing the projects too.

- Shashank.C.Dixit, Std.VI, Bapuji CBSE, Davangere

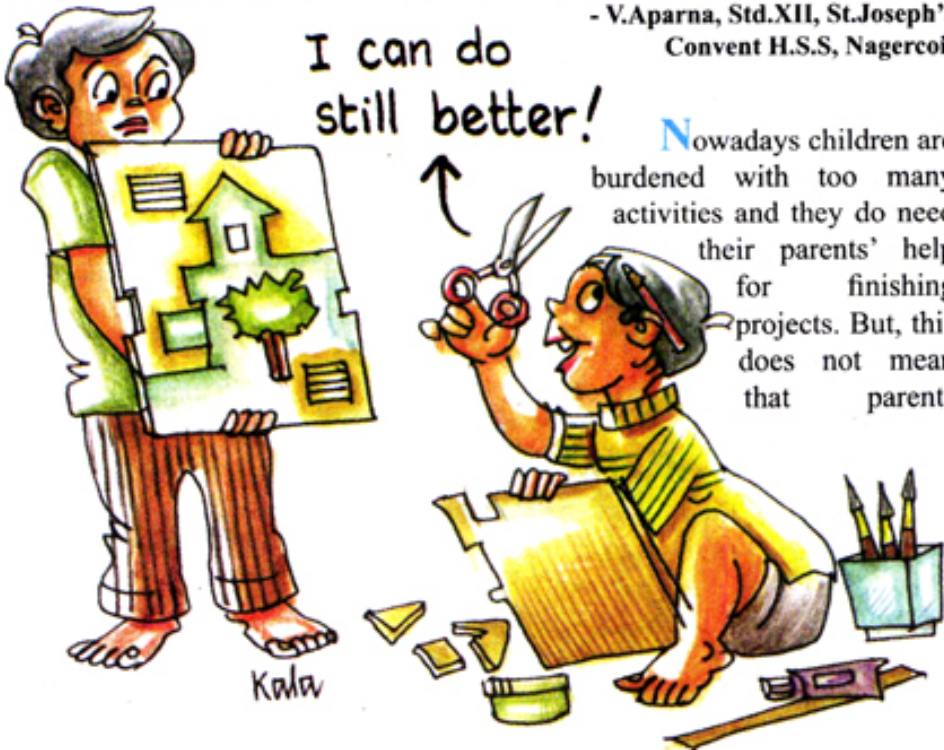
It is the child who has got to learn something new; not the parent!

- Yashaswini Premjit, Std.XI, Hyderabad Public School

Encouragement is enough; help is not necessary.

Grow Confident

- V.Aparna, Std.XII, St.Joseph's Convent H.S.S, Nagercoil



Nowadays children are burdened with too many activities and they do need their parents' help for finishing projects. But, this does not mean that parents

QUESTION FOR THE MONTH:

Should children be accompanied by parent or adult escorts when they go to movies?

Send us your views by 25.11.2010. Each published entry will receive a prize of ₹ 25/-. Remember to include details of your age, class, school and residential address. Those of you who are non-residents of India should send us a local (Indian) address too. You can send entries by post or by e.mail (gokulam@kalkiweekly.com).

should wholly do the work for them. They could help to finish it on time, by sourcing the internet, binding the project papers, etc.

- Prakash Ravichandran, Std.VIII, DAV Public School, Navi Mumbai; Athipan Anbumani, Std.VII, Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, Erode

Yes, parents should do children's projects activities because they can give their vision to the work and children can extend is further. It is just like lighting a rocket for Diwali. Once ignited, it gets momentum and travels far. Parents could also act as a catalyst in making their children complete the projects well and on time.

- Krishna Mehta, Std.V, St.Kabir School, Ahmedabad

If children are helped by parents for their projects, they will start depending on them for everything. They will never grow up and learn to face difficulties or challenges.

- Suhasini Ramani, Std.VII, G.D.Birla Centre for Education, Kolkata; Sanjoy Adhithya, Std.VIII, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Coimbatore; Sruthi S.Iyer, Std.IX, Vasant Vihar High School and Junior College, Mumbai; J.Vijayalakshmi, Std. VIII, Devi MHSS, Palani.

Projects are opportunities for children to exhibit their talent and creativity. If parents intervene or help, the child's talent will not emerge fully.

- M. Krishka, Std.IX, Veludayar HSS, Tiruvarur,

Yazhini Anbumani, Std.XI, Bharathi Vidya Bhavan, Erode; Aishwarya Shankar, Std.VIII, Holy Angels HSS, Trivandrum

We children can form teams of two and three and finish the assignments with the teachers' guidance. Parents need not get involved.

- S.Natarajan, Std.VII, M.C.T.M School, Chennai

If the project is about the Russian Revolution, we work hard on the subject and do our project. We feel a great sense of satisfaction from within, don't we? So, parents need be approached only for guidance, not for practical help.

- Tejasri Gururaj, Std.IX, Delhi Public School, Noida, Ram Padmanabhan, Std.VI, National Centre for Excellence, Bengalooru

Don't parents have enough work without having to help with our projects!? Why bother them? Instead, we should work hard and use our imagination.

- M.A.Aparna, Age 13, Public School, Coimbatore

If parents do their child's project, the child will lose all seriousness towards it. But if a child is genuinely weak, then the parents can help.

- Arundathi P.Kalyan, Std.VII, Our Own English School, Dubai

The projects are given so that children may learn new concepts and apply them in life. This being so, what use would it serve if parents did the work!

- C. Sai Sudarshan, Std X, P.S.S.S.S, Chennai

It is wrong to let our parents do the work meant for us and score marks. We should live up to our national motto, 'Satyameva Jayathe!'

- S.Rakshaa Vigneshwari, Std.VIII, Shri Anand Jain Vidyalaya, Chennai

If parents do the project work, they will be spoon-feeding their children. Some science projects require adult supervision.

- Maanasa Natarajan, Std.VII, Jnanodaya School, Bengalooru; Anjana.P, Std.VII, Holy Angels ISC School, Trivandrum

The earth is our mother,
We must take care of her.
Hey yanna, ho yanna, hey yan yan.

Sun is our father
He keeps us warm and dry
Hey yanna, ho yanna, hey yan yan

- These verses I learnt from my music teacher and have created the following :

Moon is our sister
She gives us light so bright

Stars are our brothers
They twinkle every night

Clouds are our uncles
They dash to give us rain

Planets are our cousins
They go round again and again

FRIENDS ALL AROUND

Trees are our friends
They give us oxygen

- Thryambika Sankarraman, Std.II, Windemere Elementary School, Upper Arlington, USA

LAUGHTER!

What a sight it is to see
A person laughing happily
As if without any sorrow
Not at all worrying about tomorrow
It eases our pain and helps us gain
Joy and happiness too, that's main
Well , think about all that I have said
Laugh a lot and sorrow will be dead!

- M.Yamini, Std.VIII, Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Chennai

CHILDHOOD

He is unknowing of what to do
and not,
But he thinks all right and does a
lot.
He is unconcerned about the
results he will face,
But determined to do the same yet
again with great pace.

To run, to hop, to jump -that's
all he knows,
For him all are good -whether
friends or foes.
He hugs his mom with
watery eyes when sad,
And for every small
joy, he rejoices like
mad.

Every moment of childhood, he
thinks he is the best,
Not realizing, he is yet to be out of
his mother's nest.
For sure, it is the most amazing
phase of life - childhood
When a child is the most
naughty dude.

- Lakshmi Ajaykumar,
Std.X, St.Arnold's
High School,
Mumbai

Matheran (2636 ft) is a popular hill station, just 131 kms from Mumbai. Mr. H.P. Malet, British collector of Thana district discovered this hill in 1850. In the local language, Matheran means 'jungle over the hill'.

Matheran can be reached either by road or by 'toy train' from Neral, which is about 111 kms from Mumbai. The train takes about two hours to cover a distance of 21 kms from Neral. It runs through many tunnels, takes numerous curves and finally whistles to announce its arrival at Matheran. Journey by toy train is a wonderful experience.

By road, it is about 8 kms from Neral. Allt he vehicles are parked at Dasturinaka (3 kms) before Matheran and no vehicles are allowed inside Matheran. Hence, Matheran is non-polluted.

Matheran's main attractions are the long and quiet walks under shady trees. Visitors will come across streams, lakes, etc during their walk. The cool and refreshing environment has a soothing and relaxing effect on the minds of visitors. The place is indeed 'walker's paradise'.

Matheran is also considered one of the finest places for horse riding in the country.

There are about 38 points in Matheran like Kandala point, Alexander point, Echo point, Sun-rise point, Sun-set point, Honeymoon point etc which offer rich views, worth watching for their endless beauty.

Matheran is famous for

delightful and tempting varieties of chikkis, fudges, yummy sweet jellies, jams, fruit juices, pure honey etc.

The best season for visiting this friendly jungle is October to May.

- M.V. Srikanth, Std.X,
Vijaya High School,
Bengalooru

A Friendly Jungle!

Laugh Away!

"Why are you doing your math on the floor?"

"You told me to do it without using tables."

Why was the caterpillar thrown out of the soccer team?

Because he took too long to wear his shoes!

What do you call a Roman Emperor with flu?

Julius Sneezer! (Caesar)

What did a banana say to an elephant?

Nothing – Bananas cant talk!

Where do dogs go when they lose their tails..?

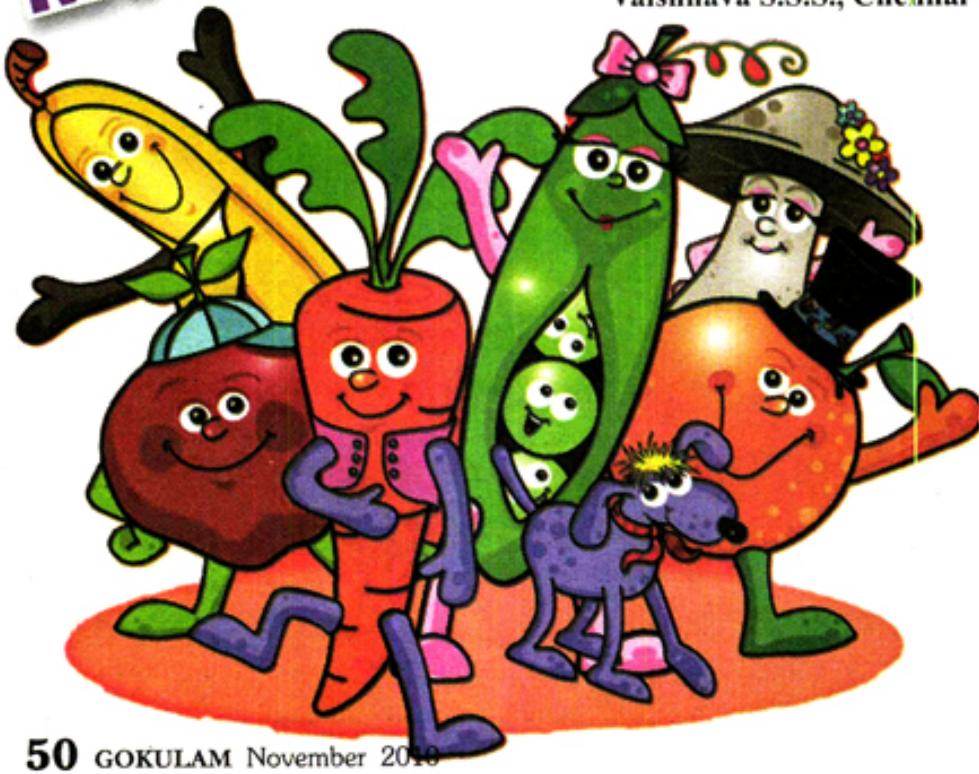
To a retail store!

Which is the laziest mountain peak?

Mount Everest! (ever rest)

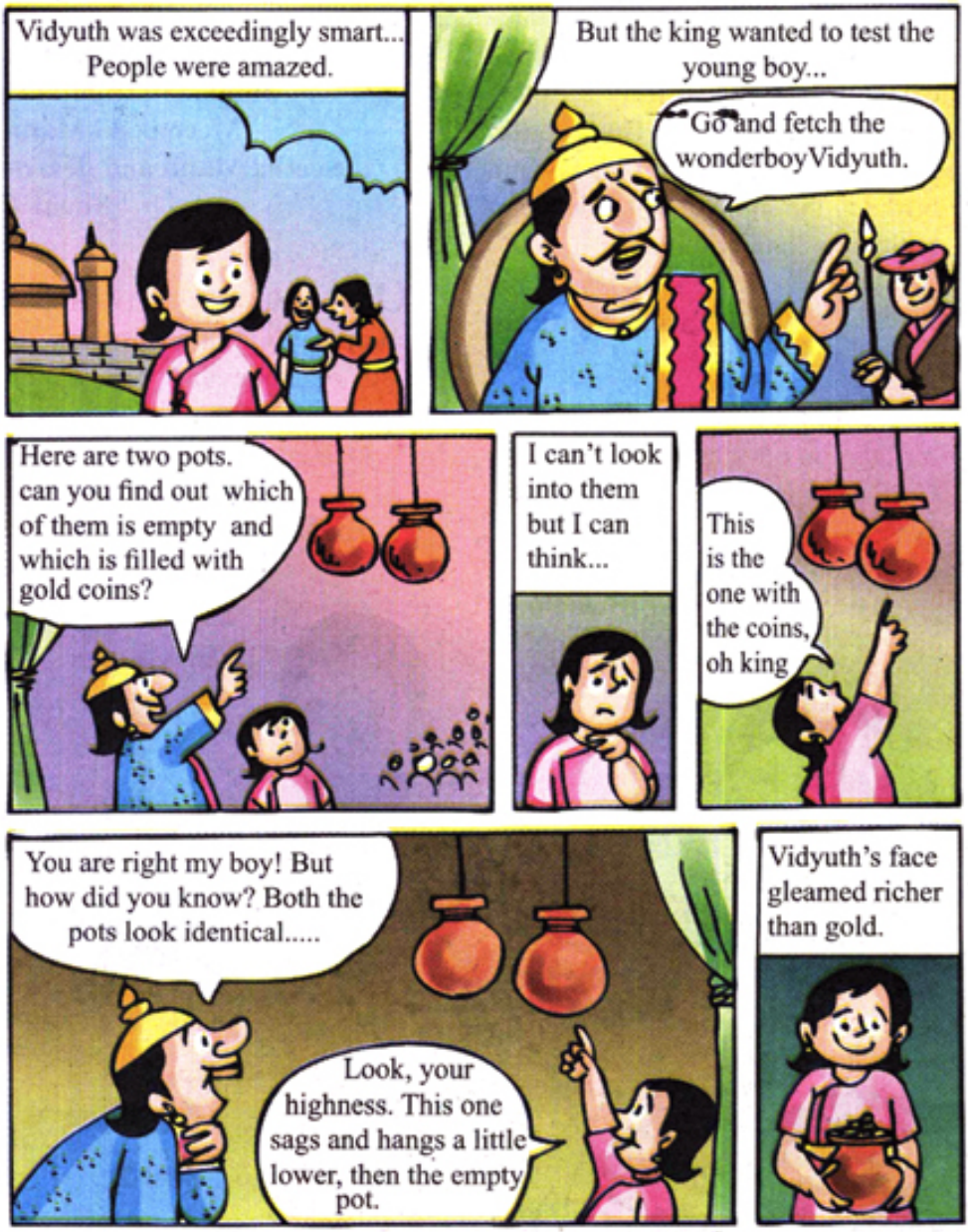
-Compiled by Radhika Jayaraj, Std.VIII, Kola Perumal Chetty Vaishnava S.S.S., Chennai

Laziest Mountain!



Wonder Boy Vidyuth!

Story: Sheetal.M.Galgali, Std. III, J.K.English Medium School, Hubli. Artist: Pillai



Wishes Come

My sister **Sruthi Santhosh** celebrates her twelfth birthday on November 3rd. Our cousin **Balashankar** celebrates his seventh birthday the same day. I wish them both many happy returns.

Best Wishes from
Sreya Santhosh

Meghna Murali's tenth birthday is on 9th November. May God show her the path to success. We wish her a healthy, happy, prosperous and bright future.

Best Wishes from
Appa, Amma, uncles, aunts, grandparents, Meenakshi Mami, Seetha Mami and dearest Sneha.R

Our beloved son **Rohith** celebrates his ninth birthday on the 8th of November. Many more happy returns of the day Rohith.

Best Wishes from **Parents S.Srinivasan and Vinodhini, sister Shreya and grandparents.**

*Crescentia Mary

*Meghna Murali

*Rohith

Your Way

Happy Birthday

Crescentia Mary will be five on the 21st of November. As she completes four, may numerous blessings pour.

Best Wishes from **Adrian, Melvin, Samantha, Mummy, Daddy, Dorothy Granny, and Bujji**

T.Chitra celebrates her birthday on 8th November. We wish her a happy and prosperous life. May God bless her.

Best Wishes from
Mom, Dad, uncle, aunt, brother and sister

Adhiti Omprakash celebrates her tenth birthday on 2nd November. Wish you a very happy birthday and a prosperous future.

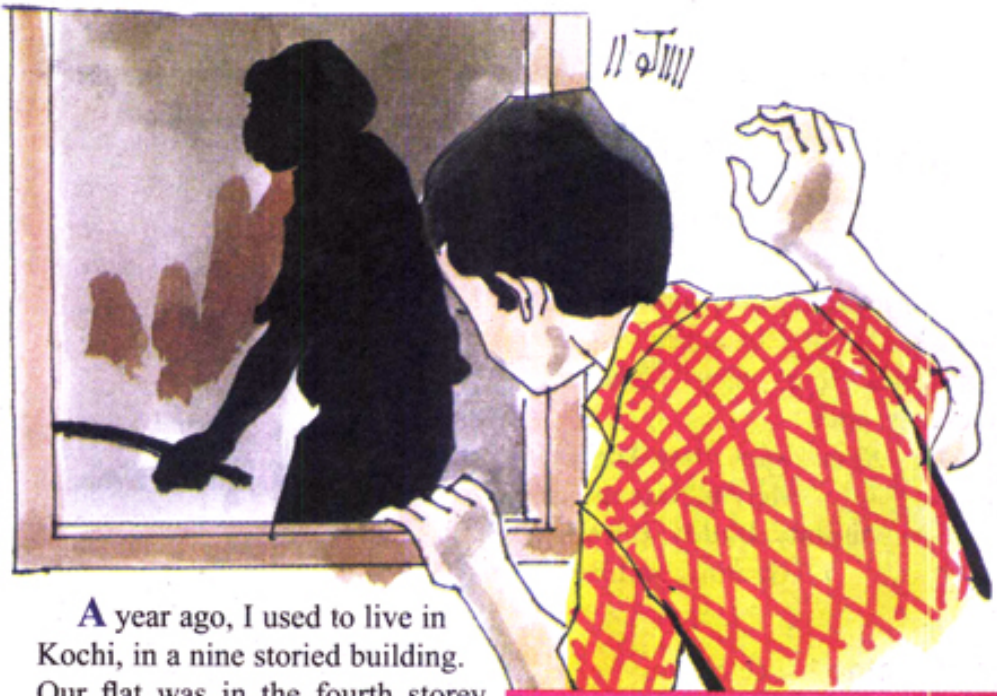
Best Wishes from
Sudharshini –sister, mother and father.

*Balashankar

*Sruthi Santhosh

*Adhiti Omprakash

*T.Chitra



The Thief

A year ago, I used to live in Kochi, in a nine storied building. Our flat was in the fourth storey. Below ours, was an uninhabited apartment.. One night, I was playing with my friend. I had called him over for company since my parents had gone out. We ran out to the balcony to enjoy the breeze and sensed some movement in the empty apartment downstairs. It was strange that someone should visit an unoccupied apartment that too at night. I gathered courage and went down with my friend. Sure enough we heard some scrambling inside and I quickly closed the door of the apartment, locking the culprit in! I called one of the neighbours and he stood by the door, ready to nab the thief. At the same time, I began to wonder what a person would be able to steal from an empty house. Carefully I opened the bolted door and from behind it... out walked our security guard! You can imagine how embarrassed I was! The guard had a key to the empty apartment and had gone in to clean the house at the odd hour. To my surprise, he appreciated my courage.

-Addhya.L.Narayanan, Std.XI, Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Chennai

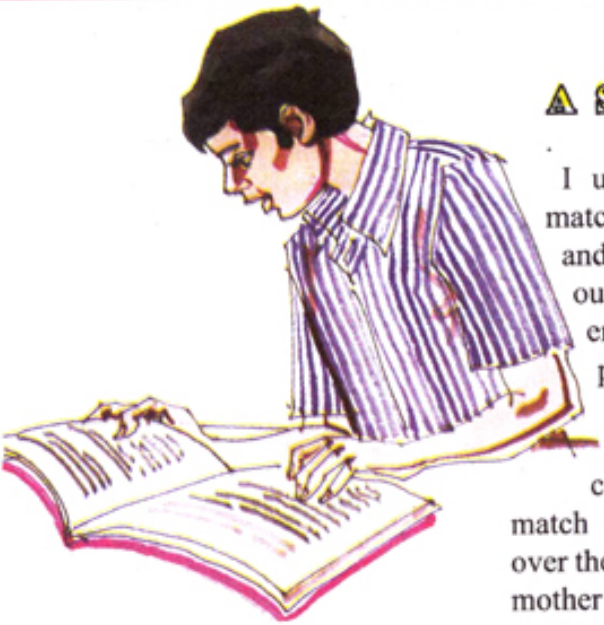
SAD BUT STILL HAPPY!

One day there was a prize distribution for the winners of

sports events in our school, soon after assembly. Many of my friends won a prize or two, in one sport or another. I felt sad because I did not win any prize. I went home rather dejected but to my surprise the postman had delivered a copy of Gokulam and my contribution had been published in it! This gave me great joy and happiness. It was the first time that something that I wrote was being published.

-Rushab.R.Bhandari, 1st Year P.U.C., Rotary P.U. College, Ranebennur, Karnataka

who Wasn't One!



A SCARY LESSON!

I used to love playing with matchsticks. I would strike them and watch them as they burnt out fully. One night I was engrossed in this favourite play of mine and my mother warned me many times to stop it. I ignored her and continued to burn all the match sticks, and threw them all over the place as they burnt out. My mother scolded me again and this

time I decided to stop playing and just came out of the kitchen, closing the door behind me. All of us went to bed. The next morning, we woke to the smell of smoke and burnt paper/plastic… My mother who entered the kitchen was shocked. Papers, plastic bottles and some firewood had caught fire and burnt through the night! Some of it had even turned into ashes. The entire paper rack had been burnt up. Initially we did not understand how this could have happened but soon I realized my foolishness. We thanked God that a major accident had not happened though I had been very careless. And I learnt a scary lesson.

-A.Nadhir, Std.III,
Soukkathul Islam
(B.M.S.), Valuthoor.

FEAR VANISHED!

This happened to me when I studied in the first standard. Some of my friends had won prizes in competitions and I too wanted to get a prize. I joined the running race, hoping to win. But on the actual day of the competition, I became very nervous and wanted to withdraw from the competition. My sweet mother and father told me not to be afraid and encouraged me to participate as planned. I reached school and my friends wished me good luck. The race was to begin shortly …I prayed to God and started running. I found that I could run quite fast. I even got the second prize! Everyone congratulated me. Since then, I have been participating in many other competitions and winning prizes.

-K.Janani, Std.II,
Siddhartha English Medium HS,
Vijayawada.

Dear Children,

Ten Commandments for you while sending in contributions to Gokulam:

1. **Write down your name, class, name of your school and complete residential address** at the beginning of each contribution. We will not accept any contribution with incomplete details.

2. **Make use of A4 sheets and write on one side of the paper,** leaving the other side blank. Do write legibly.

3. **Number your pages** and if your contribution runs to more than two pages, then write your complete personal details at the back of every page.

Attention!

7. All answers to competitions must be written in the respective page/ grid. **Entries to competitions through e-mail/ xeroxed copies/ A4 sheets will not be accepted.**

Make Sure & Take Care...

4. **Contributions by e-mail are welcome...** do give complete details including your e-mail id at the beginning of each mail.

5. **The best contributions will be published** and a certificate will be sent to the contributor. Do preserve your certificates, for the child with the maximum number of certificates will get a bumper prize at the end of 12 months (ending each June).

6. **Competition entries** must reach us before the last date mentioned.

8. Entries to Happy Birthday (Birthday Bash) and theme based contributions (eg., Diwali, New year, Republic Day, Environment Day, Teacher's Day, etc) **should reach us two months prior to the respective events.**

9. **We are looking for original stories, experiences, amusing anecdotes and articles,** but if you have based your writing on any source, then do acknowledge it.

10. **No copying, please!**

S.S. Pramodh
Std: IV, Venkat International Public School, Bengalooru.

P.Sona
Std: IV, Sai MHSS, Chennai.

Kiddy's

N. Swetha
Std: IV, AVB MHSS, Coimbatore.

M.Malavika
Std: V, Vedavalli Vidyalaya, Walajapet.

K.R.Vignesh
Std: III, Child Jesus Nursery's
Primary School, Chennai.

Palette

B.N. Aishwarya,
Std: V,Asian Christian
High School, Bagalur.

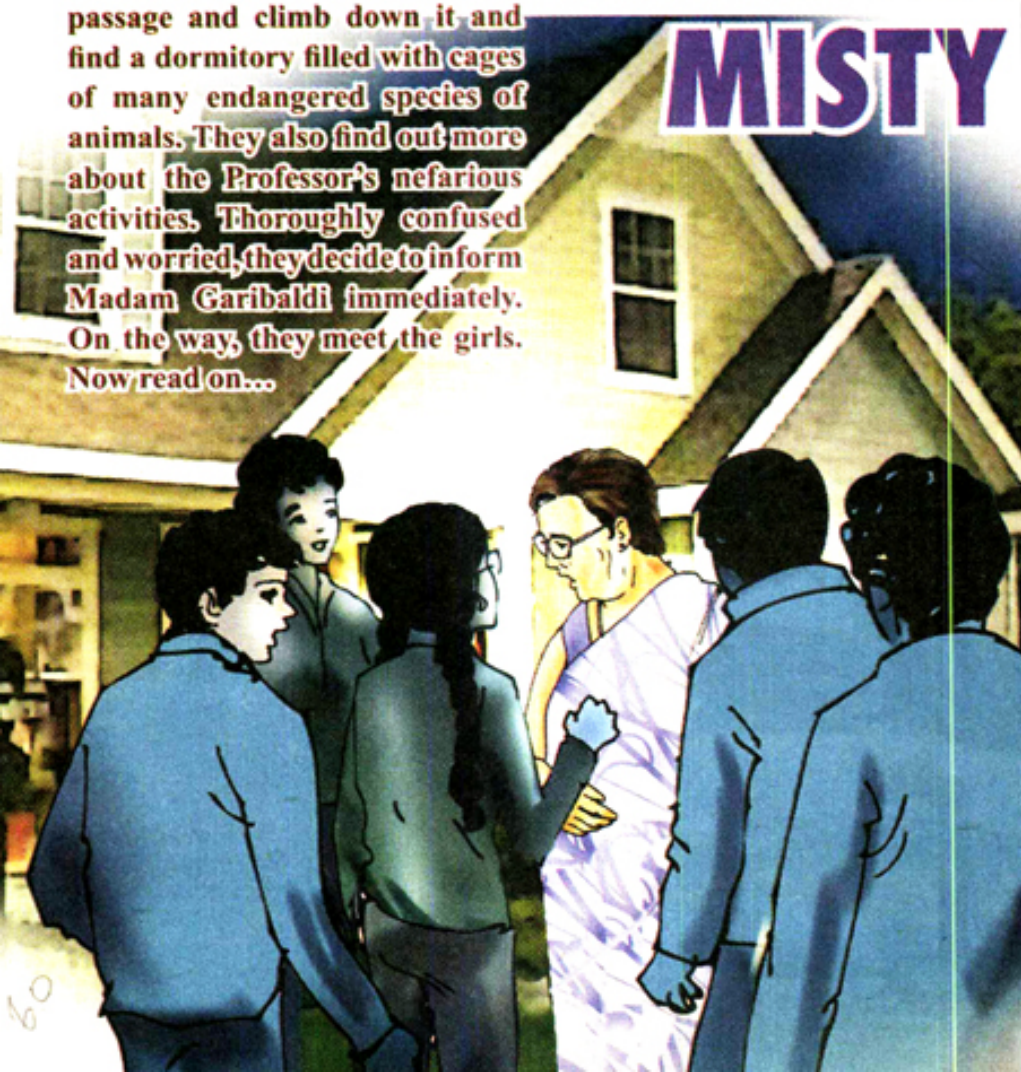
Akhil.S.Kumar
Std: II, Vivekananda Trust,
Wakro, Arunachal Pradesh.

Chapter 10

Synopsis of Chapter 9

The girls are caught and taken back to the hostel by Madam Patricia but the boys continue their wait for Professor Ramakanth. They stalk him and reach a dilapidated shed. The boys discover an underground passage and climb down it and find a dormitory filled with cages of many endangered species of animals. They also find out more about the Professor's nefarious activities. Thoroughly confused and worried, they decide to inform Madam Garibaldi immediately. On the way, they meet the girls. Now read on...

Getting past the security guard at the Principal's quarters was one big effort and then convincing the head of the institution about the strange happenings at the jungle was another. Woken up suddenly from her sound slumber, Madam Garibaldi was more than shocked to see a bunch of juniors in the middle of the night. Furious at first, she gradually cooled down and



listened to the questionable tale, but somehow the urgency of the situation made her take an instant decision of following the students to the jungle. As the group neared the ramshackle, the boys pointed at the manhole –the entry to Ramakanth's underground hideout.

"I think it's better I keep vigil here while the rest of you get in," Sid suggested. "You never know

HEIGHTS

who else is involved with the Professor and we don't want all of us trapped in there."

"You are right," Sadil agreed.

"Oh my God," Garibaldi exclaimed. "Do you think I can get through that hole?" But with the help of the agile girls she got down safely and reached the cubicle where the cages were kept. There was no sign of Ramakanth or Harish but since the computer screen was switched on there was a possibility that the duo could be in the adjacent room. They waited in the shadows and in a few minutes the twosome appeared and this time the professor was carrying a cobra. Madam Garibaldi's eyes popped out at as she stared at her dear faculty member.

In the meantime, Sid who was keeping vigil at the top, heard the ruffle of dry leaves. But before he could hide, he came face to face with the tribesman he had spotted before. The startled tribal tried to catch hold of Sid when another figure appeared from the confines of the dark and pounced on him. A few seconds later, the tribesman's hands were cuffed behind his back. Sid now switched on his torch and was relieved to see that the hero of the moment was none other than the Principal's security guard. Earlier, when he had spotted Madam Garibaldi leave for the jungle along with the children, he had become doubtful and thought it wise to follow the group. They locked the wriggling tribal inside the shack and decided to wait for the others.

In the bedlam of the tussle it so happened that the tribesman's gunny bag rolled over and fell straight into the open manhole. No sooner it hit the bottom, the scared little mongoose that was trapped inside escaped through the loose opening of the bag and sped directly towards the underground cubicle and hid near the headmistress's

Geeta Canpadee

legs. That was exactly the moment when Pofessor Ramakanth appeared with a cobra. When Madam Garibaldi bent down to see what was tickling her, she spotted two round glistening eyes and let out such an ear splitting shriek that the professor involuntarily let go the reptile.

And then the action began. The cobra went slithering and hissing all over the place and the sight of his old enemy made the mongoose go leaping around for a game of hide and seek. Everyone in the congested dungeon began running in all directions, screaming and screeching at the top of their voices. The state of pandemonium and chaos continued for a while till the infuriated professor fired a blind shot which brought the entire group including the two playful animals to a freeze. Now that the game was out, the professor's only concern was to escape and what better way than to take Madam Garibaldi hostage so that no harm would befall him till he sped to safety. Hence, pointing the pistol at the Principal's temple, he headed out. He also signalled his disciple to follow him and later shut the man-hole so that the interlopers remained trapped along with the cobra. Harish hesitated for a while before he turned to trail after his wicked master. An agitated Padm stepped forward and gave a tigh slap on his cheek. She was chokin with agony and her eyes were fu of hatred and contempt for he childhood friend. Harish bit hi lips helplessly. He was a slave o Professor Ramakanth.

Meanwhile, back at the top Sid and the security guard ha heard the gunshot emerging fron the underground dungeon an before they could decide to step in there appeared Madam Garibald peeping out of the hovel, closel followed by the Professor with th pistol pointed at her back.

"Drop your gun and into tha manhole," ordered Professo Ramakanth.

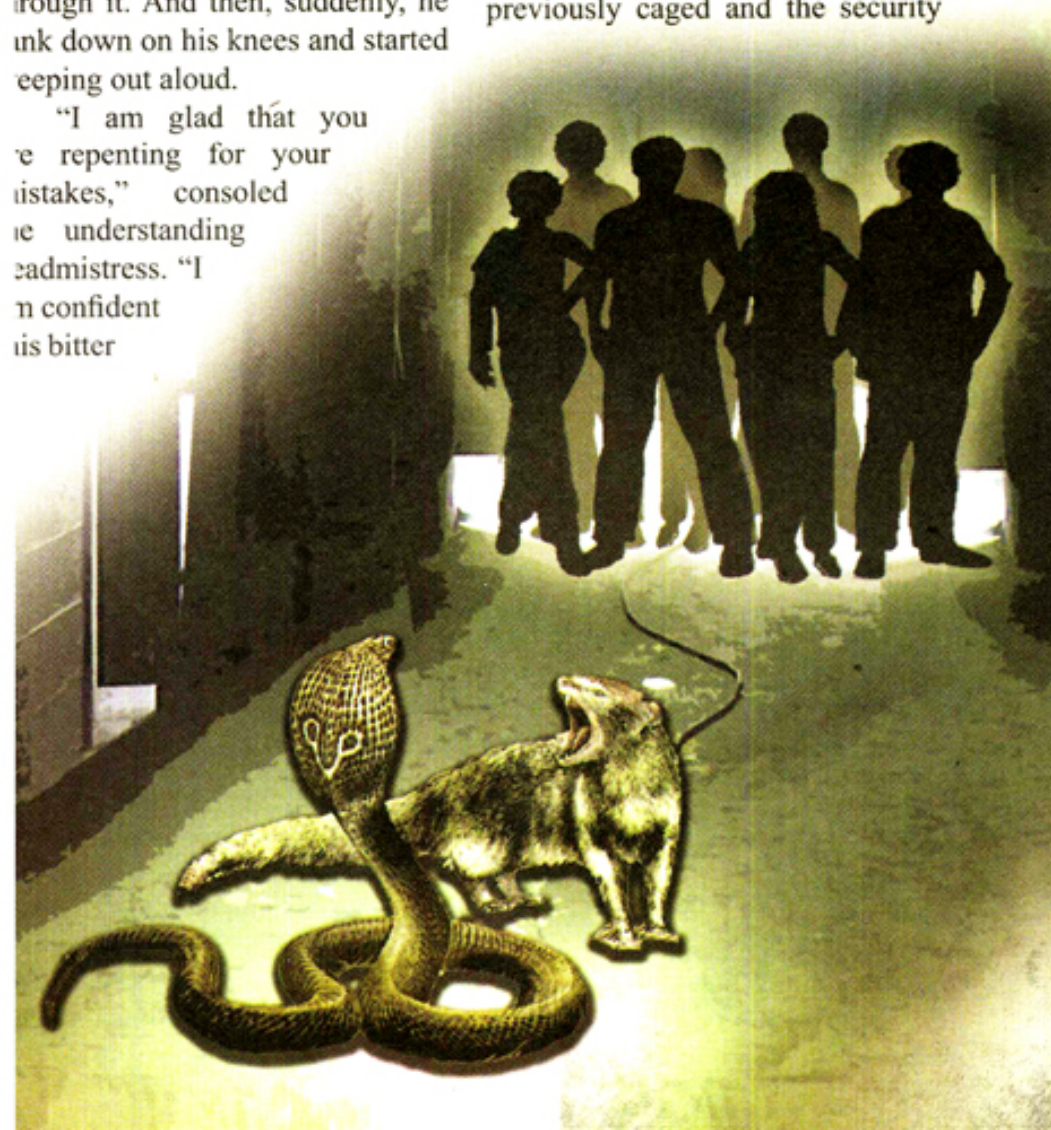
Sid and the security guard ha no choice but to proceed toward the hovel but before they coul be forced downwards, somethin very unexpected occurred. Haris carefully took position behin his master and seizing the righ moment, picked up a wooden lo and banged it on the professor' head.

Ramakanth went reeling t the ground and the security guar instantly rushed to the spot t snatch the pistol from his fist whil Sid hurried to Madam Garibaldi'

d. Harish hastened towards the anhole and rushed to rescue his niors from the venomous serpent. potting the cobra, he deftly held it ith the help of a stick and neatly ansferred it into a wooden box. e also urged his friends to climb ıt of the hole and closed the lid prevent other animals escaping rough it. And then, suddenly, he ınk down on his knees and started eeping out aloud.

"I am glad that you e repenting for your istakes," consoled e understanding eadmistress. "I n confident is bitter experience will help you to become a better human being in the future," and she patted him on the back supportively.

It was almost pre-dawn before the group reached the school. The professor was pushed into the shack where his tribal friend was previously caged and the security



guard decided to remain stationed there till the police arrived.

But then it so happened that even before Madam Garibaldi could inform the regional Inspector, the man in uniform had already arrived at Misty Heights, thanks to Madam Patricia. When the suspicious warden discovered Mau and Padma missing from the hostel the second time, she had become so furious that she had directly marched over to Garibaldi's quarters to discuss the matter. However, not finding the Principal and her security guard, she had immediately rung up the police.

The inspector was startled to hear a different and a much bigger story from the children. He and his team-mates immediately reached the spot of action. Ofcourse, they had nothing much to do but handcuff the already captured culprits and rescue the caged creatures from the underground dungeon. Madam Garibaldi then decided that the poor beasts would remain safe at her school till the animal right activists arrived to take them away.

News spread throughout the school and the entire faculty and students rushed out of their rooms. It was one super exciting day for the Fabulous Five (as the five friends got to be titled across Misty Heights) and one big hero's welcome for the rescued animals as they were paraded down the school campus. There was also a mad rush to catch a glimpse of the nefarious professor and his tribal mate as they were taken away in the police jeep. Many even attempted to enter the jungle to have a glimpse of the underground hideout until the investigation team cordoned off the site. But the fivesome were dead beat and craved for some rest. So, when nobody was looking, they quietly slipped from the scene and escaped to their rooms where they dropped down and went into blissful sleep.

(To be continued)

Dear Children,

Are you ready for the puzzle this month. Each clue indicates a three lettered word. Each of the three letters can be found in the three words mentioned against each clue. Given below are the names of winners of Word Play – 3 (September 2010). Our heartiest congratulations to the champs! The answers are given on the next page (no. 66). The winners of Word Play – 4 will be announced in December 2010.

1) D.Vasanth, Std.VI, Sai MHSS, Chennai 2) Apurva Arunkumar, Std.XI, Jain Girls Junior College, Pune 3) Shreya Warrier, Std. VIII, S.I.E.S. High School, Mumbai 4) Srinidhi Sundaresan, Std.IX, Amity International School, Noida 5) M. Mithun, Std.VI, Kendriya Vidyalaya No.1, Pondicherry

Fill in the form on the reverse of this page and send your entries to Gokulam before 25.11.10

WORD PLAY – 5

1	Clue	ATE	LIP	POT	
2	A pen should have this	BIN	SIN	KIN	
3	Heavy mist	OFF	COT	GOT	
4	Say, cashew or badam	NIL	URN	TEA	
5	Signal	ACE	SUE	END	
6	Highest Indian waterfall	JAR	AGO	AGE	
7	Interrogate	PAN	SEA	KID	
8	Perhaps- a month	AIM	SAP	YES	
9	Purchase	BAY	BUT	YOU	
10	When eyes express pain	ACE	ARE	TOY	

- G.S.S.

WORD PLAY -3 ANSWERS

1	Look	ASK	ZEN	ONE	SEE
2	Suitable	FAN	TIN	TEA	FIT
3	Fresh	AND	MEW	WED	NEW
4	Means of transport	BIN	CUB	ASS	BUS
5	Obese	FUR	SEA	ANT	FAT
6	A weapon	ARC	BOX	SET	AXE
7	Beam	RIM	RAT	LAY	RAY
8	A bovine animal	ACE	TON	WON	COW
9	A state in India	AGE	GOD	MAT	GOA
10	Triumph	TOW	ICE	CAN	WIN

Word Play - 5 Entry Form

Name : (Mr/Ms) .....

Age : ..... Class : .....

School : .....

*Residential Address : .....

.....Pin.....

Signature : .....

* Local address is a must for overseas entries.

The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings,
47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.

● Strictly for school going children ●Five lucky winners will get a cash award of ₹ 50/- each. They will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. ●Entries with completed grid on the reverse accepted on this form only ●No xerox copies. ●Editor's decision is final and binding.

I am a new reader and have read only two or three issues of Gokulam but have already started looking forward to it every month. Can I send long stories?

-Ananthakrishnan.S, Std.VII, Sainik School, Kazhakotam

(Dear Ananthakrishnan, You may send stories, but do keep them short.-Editor)

Grandmaworm's column has helped me get over my stage fear and now I am able to participate in competitions confidently.

-Anupya Choudary, Std.V, Ryan International School, Mumbai.

Travel Special, Humour Special, Picture Story Special were all very interesting. My mother too loves to read Gokulam. She likes art zone, jokes and cook it up. Hats off to Gokulam

-Nirmal Kumar, Std. VI, A.F.A.C. English School, Mumbai

Gokulam is my favourite magazine. When I read it, my mind becomes free. I liked the poster of the wooly mammoth that you published once. I have hung it up in the hall.

-G.Gnana Vijay, Std.VII, G.R.D. MHSS, Coimbatore.

Thank you for publishing my name in the Hi Buddy column. I now have a pen friend – Jaisha Priyam from Tuticorin. I feel proud to be your friend Jaisha.

-K.Pritheka, Std. IX, Sri Lathangi Vidhya Mandir MHSS, Pollachi

Heyya Gokulam,

This book is simply awesome. How about posters for Hollywood stars..?

-Ainne, Std. VIII, ONGC Public School, Karaikal

J.K.Rowling's original hand written pages of Harry Potter series were displayed at a book festival in Scotland. This is the first time that anybody viewed J.K.R's manuscript! It is a part of "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" and was edited out of the book before publication! There are two astonishing facts in this news: a) Rowling doesn't use a computer to write her novels! b) The publisher is allowed to edit her work!

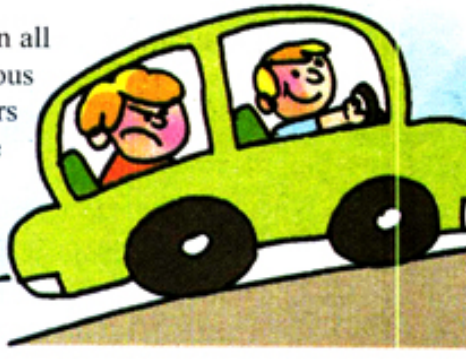
*Astonishing facts

Parrot Arrested! Dead Man Fined!

How Stupid can one be? Well, here are two examples: Nicholas Rappold of U.S.A. died in his car. But a parking ticket was issued to him by a traffic cop for wrongful parking, which meant that the dead man had to visit the police station to pay a fine!

Columbian police in USA arrested a parrot! The reason? It sensed police raid and warned its owners a gang of drug dealers - who made good their escape! Police said that the parrot was trained to scream, "Run! Run! The cat will get you!"

After a lot of violence in Srinagar, an all party meeting was held under the auspicous of our Central Government. Interlocutors have been appointed to continue dialogue with several sections of society and several shades of politicians. A lot of misunderstanding has to



be cleared and solutions found to problems before the common man in Kashmir can be assured of permanent peace.

A non stick chewing gum that dissolves in water within 24 hours has been formulated by British scientists! It has the same taste and texture as normal gum. It is easily removed with soap and water and is biodegradable. The new chewing gum is expected to cut down the cost of removing sticky gum from the streets for which Britain spends at present 150 million pounds annually!

Commonwealth games had a colourful start after a lot of initial hiccups. Bad planning, delayed execution and poor workmanship gave rise to a lot of criticism. Threat of terrorism and accusations of corruption left a bitter taste. However, the sweet spirit of sports soon took over and our sports persons are trying hard to hold onto their second place in the medals tally, with Australia leading as number one.

The first ever census of marine life took ten years to be completed and published! According to the scientists' findings, the oceans could contain 7,50,000 undiscovered species of life! They say that the oceans are teeming with greater diversity of life than originally thought!

The verdict on Ayodhya, Rama Janma Bhoomi dispute has been delivered by the Allahabad High Court. Two thirds of the area has been allotted to Hindus and one third to Muslims. Both praise and criticism have echoed over the media on the verdict. But what is important is that there has been no protest so far from the general public. Let us hope that the wood of the common man is well understood by both religious and political leaders, resulting in peace and mutual respect between both communities.

New York's capital lettered street names are to be changed to lower case! BROADWAY will become broadway! Researchers found that lowercase letters with wider spacings are easier to read! So, drivers will not take their eyes off the road for long and it will reduce accidents! However U.S citizens are not happy, as this change will involve millions of dollars of taxpayers' money. Protests are being planned!

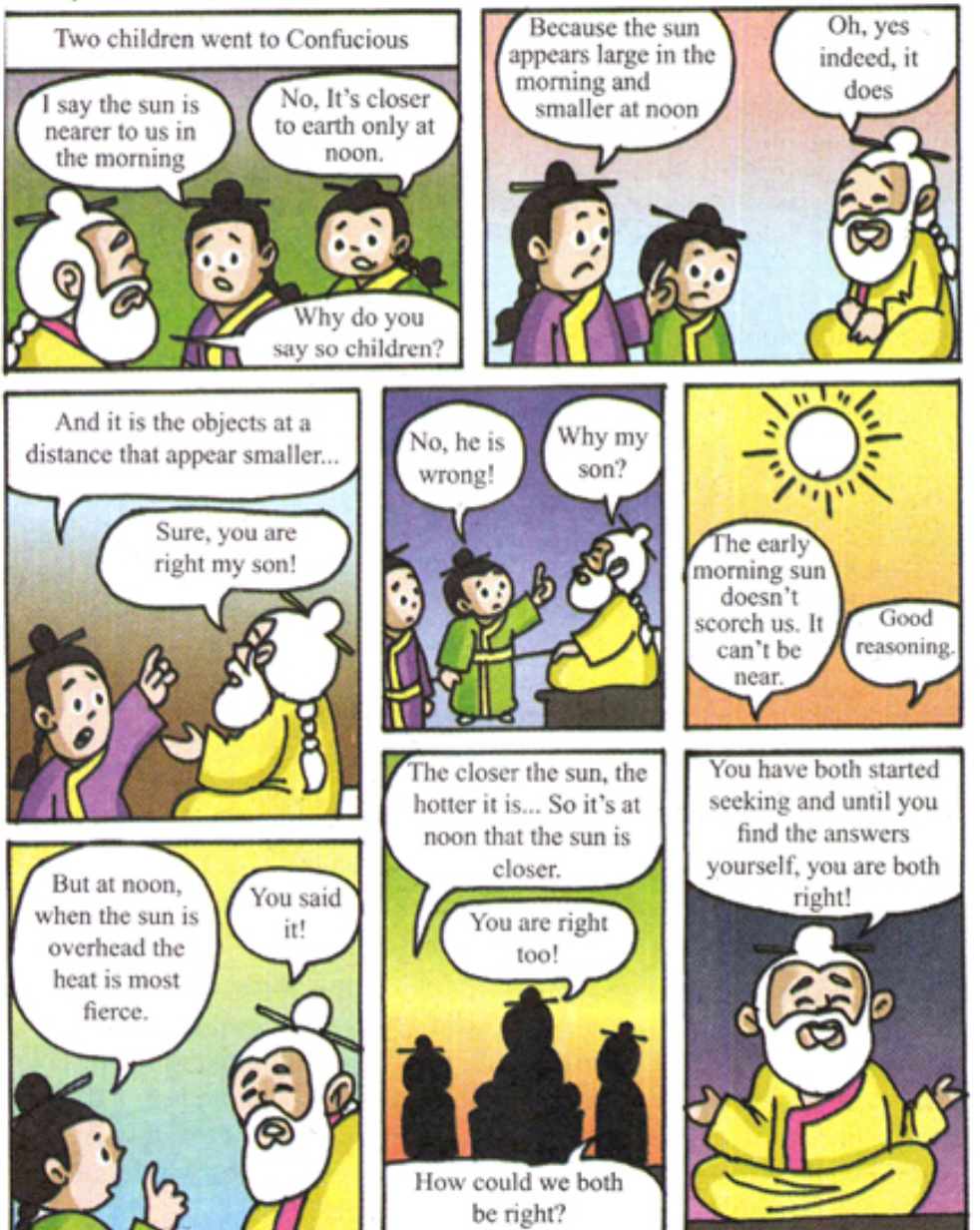
The temple that Raja Raja chola built in Tanjore is thousand years old and is an architectural marvel. The millennium was celebrated with pomp and pagentary by the Tamilnadu government. One thousand dancers performed at the same time, which perhaps can find a place in the Guinness Book of Records!

When the Titanic was about to sink, a wealthy person and his wife managed to escape in a row boat along with their secretary Laura Francatelli. Legend has it that the rich man paid a huge amount to the crew to get him away without waiting for more passengers, as he was afraid that the sinking ship may hit the boat and topple it! The boat had just 12 people on board, whereas it could accomodate 40! Now, a rare letter written by Laura, the secretary, has come up for auction in London. It is expected to fetch a minimum of --- 10,000 since it is believed that it will throw more light on the incident!

Hot, Bright, and Right!

Story: Chitra Sivakumar

Picture: Pillai



Super-Clean

Meenu, Arjun and Grandma were visiting Uncle Ram in Singapore. They were amazed to see the super-clean roads and picture perfect city.

"Wow! Wonder how they keep this place spic and span!" Meenu exclaimed.

Arjun said, "Must be employing thousands of meticulous people to do the job."

"Yes… and no!" Uncle Ram laughed. "Most of us can't afford servants; so the entire population is 'employed' to keep this country clean."

The kids looked askance at him. So he continued. "Well, firstly we dare not dirty the place for fear of hefty fines being imposed for littering. Periodical inspections are carried out to ensure that no apartment or house has cockroaches, termites or pests!"

Even Grandma was impressed. "That's great! It's one thing to ask people to keep off pests, but what about pets and children? You don't have cattle on the streets, fine, but I saw plenty of dogs being taken out for walks. Don't they… hmm… dirty the sidewalks?"

"You haven't been very observant, Amma. Dog-keepers carry litter-bags and clean up behind their pets," explained her son, laughing. "And before you ask, spitting on the roads and walls, and er urinating is a strict no-no!"

Back home after an enjoyable outing, Grandma said, "I wish people back home in India could also be disciplined. We could keep our homes and surroundings clean…"

"Hmm... that would mean working for a transformation," said uncle emphatically. "Now kids, go wash your hands and feet Dinner is served".

"Sorry," he mumbled and rushed to the washroom.

"But Uncle, we don't need a wash, do we?" Arjun protested. "After all, our feet and hands can't get soiled here. So why…?"

Grandma frowned. "Now kids, haven't I told you a million times that our home is like a temple. We should always be bathed and clean when we leave the house and as soon as we are back we should first wash our hands and feet before

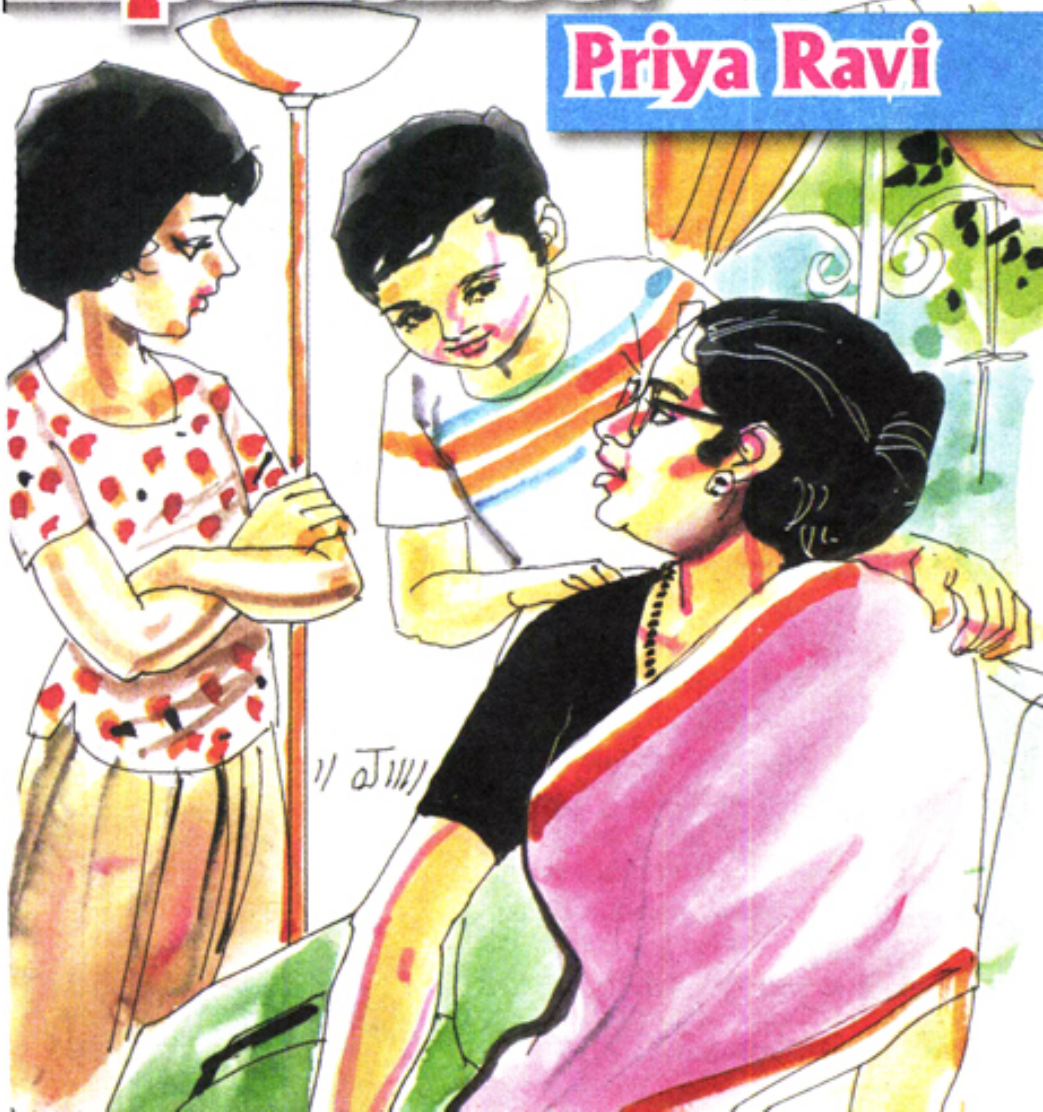
tepping onto the carpet or touching nything."

Meenu who had obeyed Uncle nstantly, imitated Grandma. "Hey Arjun, cleanliness is godliness! Dirty hands and feet lead to illness nd disease. Don't you know?"

Arjun was ashamed. Daddy had told them often enough how even apparently clean hands could be the carriers of germs and viruses. "Sorry," he mumbled and rushed to the washroom.

Experience!

Priya Ravi



Seated at the dinner table, Grandma continued the discussion.

"Our forefathers have laid down a code of hygienic conduct. Bathing is an integral part of daily routine in every Indian's life. Special occasions call for holy dips in sacred rivers and lakes as enumerated by the scriptures."

"I agree, Amma, and apart from ensuring good health through personal hygiene, polygraphic studies have proved that water enhances electro-magnetic activity. Thus religious practices like washing hands and feet before entering temples, bathing daily, worshipping with wet clothes and offering prayers standing in chest-deep waters of rivers and tanks etc., seem to be more scientific than a mere act of cleanliness."

"I believe, Maharshi Vaatsyaayana has even described the various power centres in the human body and gave scientific explanations for various practices. He reasoned why we feel so lethargic on waking up in the morning, why we are neither active physically nor mentally. Washing our face clears the cobwebs of drowsiness as water consumes the electrical impulses generated in our body. This is known as Electro-magnetic activity in Physics."

Grandma triumphantly turned t the kids. "See, our seers and sage were great scientists. They di not offer such explanations to th common man and confuse then Instead they listed simple practice and couched them in religion suc that everybody would follow then Washing the surroundings an courtyard at the entrance to th house, first thing in the morning, fo instance. Only flowing river wate or recharged well water was to b used for cooking and drinking."

Is that why you and amm bathe early in the mornin before you enter the kitchen?

"Yes. And isolating patien infected with chicken pox an other contagious ailments certainl prevented the outbreak of epidemic to a large extent."

"Now I know why you insi on us having a bath as soon as w have a hair cut! Because they us the same pair of scissors and towe for everyone, at the hair-dressers Arjun comprehended.

Meenu exclaimed, "… and is that why you and amma bathe early in the morning before you enter the kitchen? So that the food you cook is not contaminated?"

"Right you are, Meenu. Now you know why I ask you to comb your hair, oil and plait it? Just so that stray hair might not fall into your plate. Trimmed nails and cleaned hands will prevent worm infestations, food poisoning or stomach infections."

"Thanks Doctor Grandma!" freshly cooked food! Stale or spoilt food might not upset His stomach but they might not agree with yours!"

Grandma laughed "Not to mention our 'disposables' reserved for festive occasions. Food served on leaves and drinks served in earthen cups! Ensures hygienically served food and at the same time environmental protection too!"

Uncle yawned. "Now that you have made your point, can we all go to bed?"

"If Daddy had b